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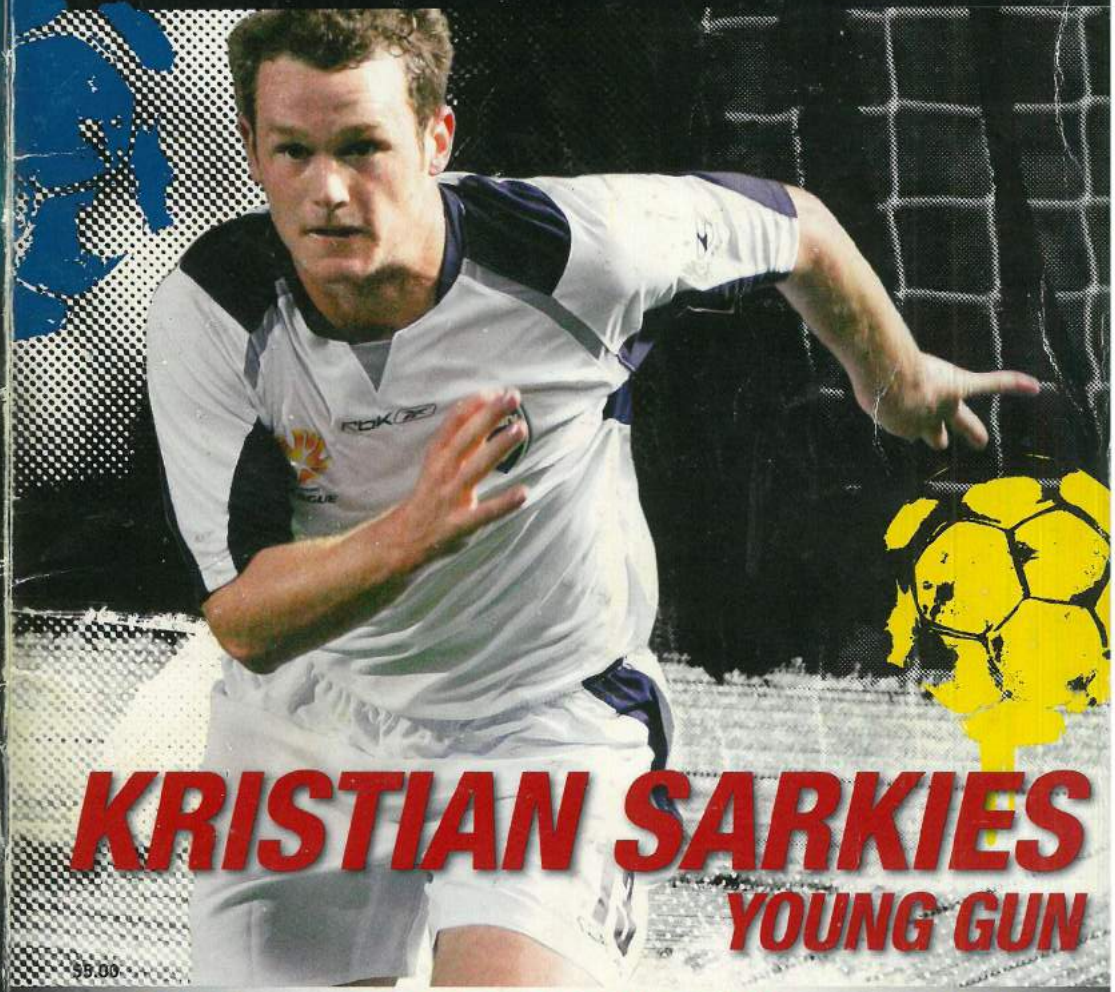
HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE **ROUND 13** SEASON 2005-06



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VS
CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

Olympic Park, November 18

AUSTRALIA FOOTBALL

A-LEAGUE

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CONTENTS

Round preview 4
A match-by-match guide to the weekend.

Robbie Slater 16
Looks at the league's newest import.

Aloisi on Aloisi 18
The two brothers talk about their football lives.

Kristian Sarkies 26
Melbourne's young star.

Player profiles 30

Clint Bolton 37
We chat to the Sydney stopper.

Double teams 42
Footballers' partners are committed to the game, too.

Kidzone 48
Games and football skills for the younger fans.

Hyundai A-League fixture 50

Around the clubs 52

World wrap 59

Extra time 64
A quick chat with Roar's Scott Higgins.

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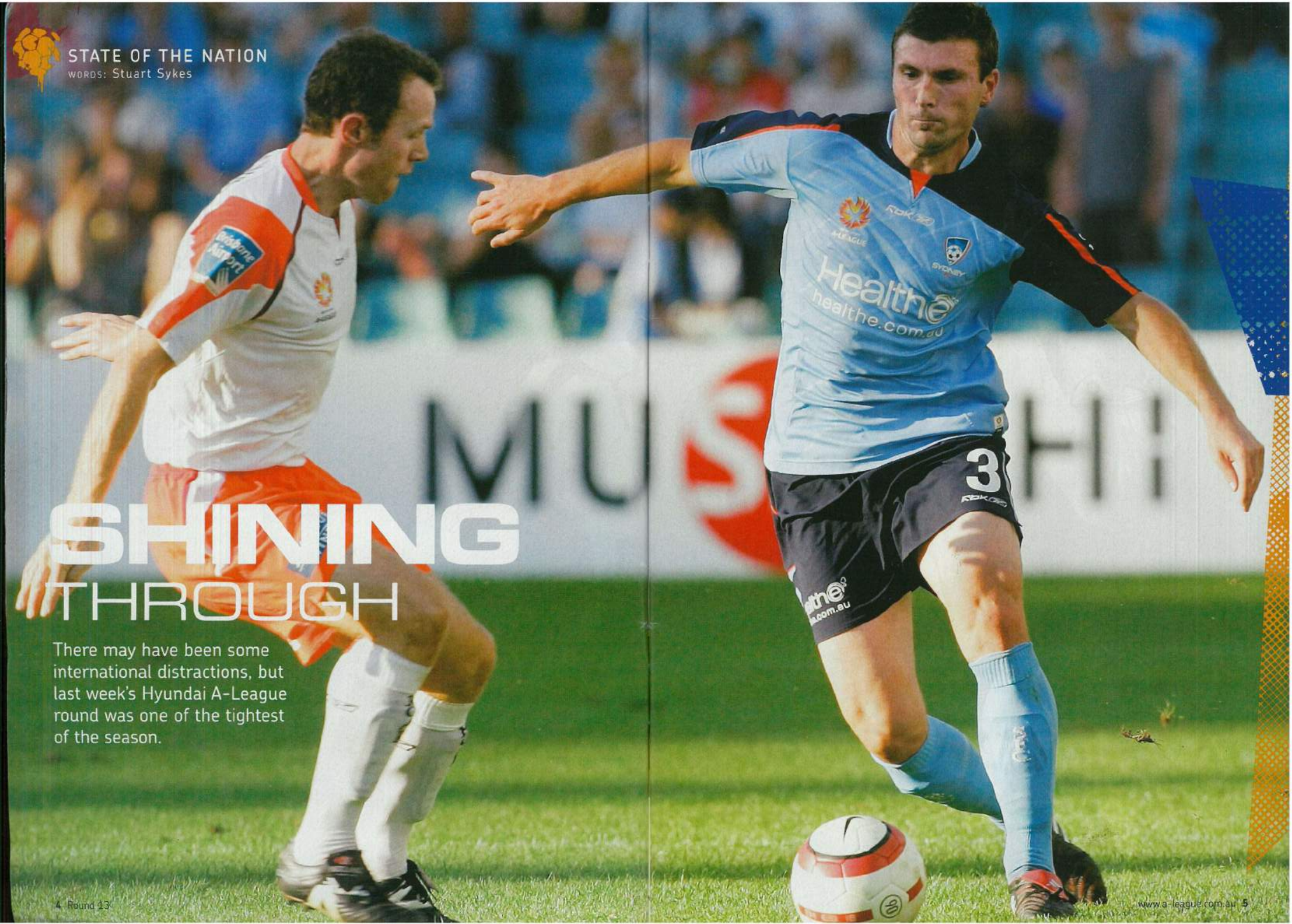
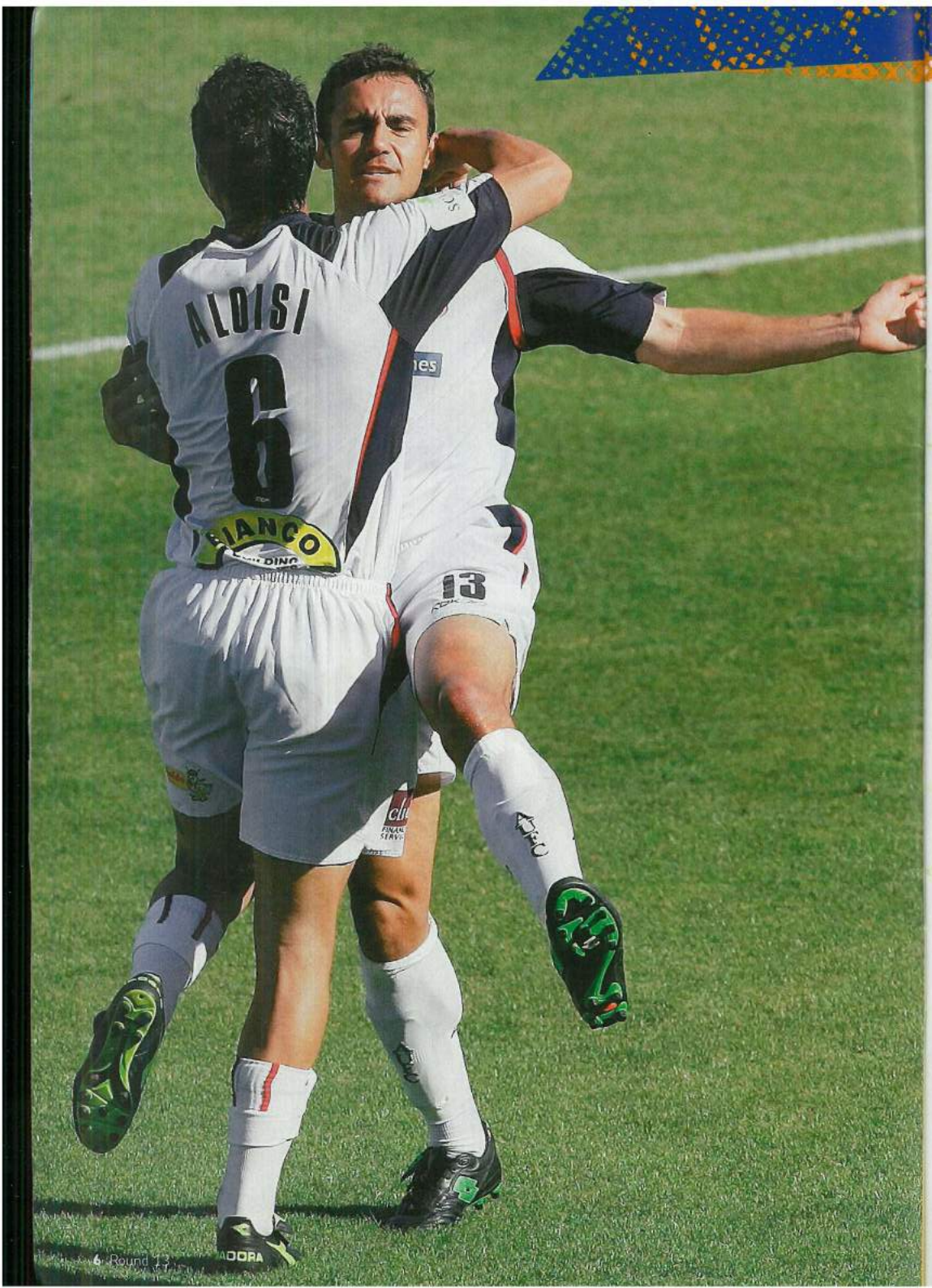
WORDS: Stuart Sykes

SHINING THROUGH

There may have been some international distractions, but last week's Hyundai A-League round was one of the tightest of the season.





Previous page: Roar's Stuart McLaren challenges Sydney's Alvin Ceccoli.

Left: Adelaide's Ross Aloisi congratulates Travis Dodd on his late goal against the Mariners.

Right: Central Coast's John Hutchinson heads the ball in the game against Adelaide.

After an 11th round in which three players scored hat-tricks, and on a weekend where the Qantas Socceroos were on international duty in Uruguay, it was almost inevitable that Round 12 of the Hyundai A-League would be short of fireworks.

And so it proved. Only one team managed three goals, never mind one player, and it was no surprise when they came from front-running Perth Glory against the team anchored at the bottom of the ladder, the New Zealand Knights.

Adelaide United maintained their impressive form away from home and were the only team to win on the road in Round 12, briefly going top of the ladder until Sydney scored the only goal at Aussie Stadium to frustrate the Queensland Roar.

Meanwhile, at Olympic Park, Melbourne seemed to have forgotten their name, as a win eluded them for the fourth match in a row. But a scoreless draw with the Jets was an improvement on three straight losses for the team.

"You don't feel good when you're going through what we're going through," said New Zealand coach John Adshead after watching his side go down for the 11th time in 12 matches, this time on the wrong end of a 3-0 scoreline in Perth. Seeing his own top scorer Simon Yeo go off with a patella injury only added to his woes.

Despite losing unsettled striker Brian Deane, who has returned to England, the Glory still had too much firepower for the leakiest defence in the competition. Bobby Despotovski got the home side on the way with a 12th-minute strike, his seventh of the season, and when Naum Sekulovski made it 2-0 midway through the first half, it seemed all over.

Then, last week's hat-trick star Damian Mori, possibly in his last outing for the club, turned provider with the cut back that put Nick Ward in for the final goal in the 69th minute.

Melbourne went into battle at Olympic Park minus three big names. Archie Thompson was in South America on international duty, while Kevin Muscat and Geoffrey Claeys were paying the penalty for the red cards picked up in the 1-0 loss to the Roar the week before.

New Zealand's Simon Yeo is stretchered off after injuring his patella.

Thompson was the last man to score for Merrick's side in Round Nine in Perth, and once again they came up short in front of goal. A combination of calm in a Jets defence marshalled by Ned Zelic, and the Victory trying to be too cute with the final ball, meant chances were few and far between.

Richard Kitzbichler forced Reddy into a good save early in the second half, Daniel Allsopp headed wide in front of a gaping goal, and the Victory's night was summed up when Ricky Diaco had the fans cheering until they realised his shot had rebounded into the side netting.

Kristian Sarkies came on just past the hour mark but had little chance to make an impression in attack, and it was the excellent Danny Piorkowski at the heart of the youthful home defence who stood out. With Adrian Leijer also in no-nonsense mood, the threats of Milicic (a hat-trick man the previous week against the Knights) and Carle were completely snuffed out.

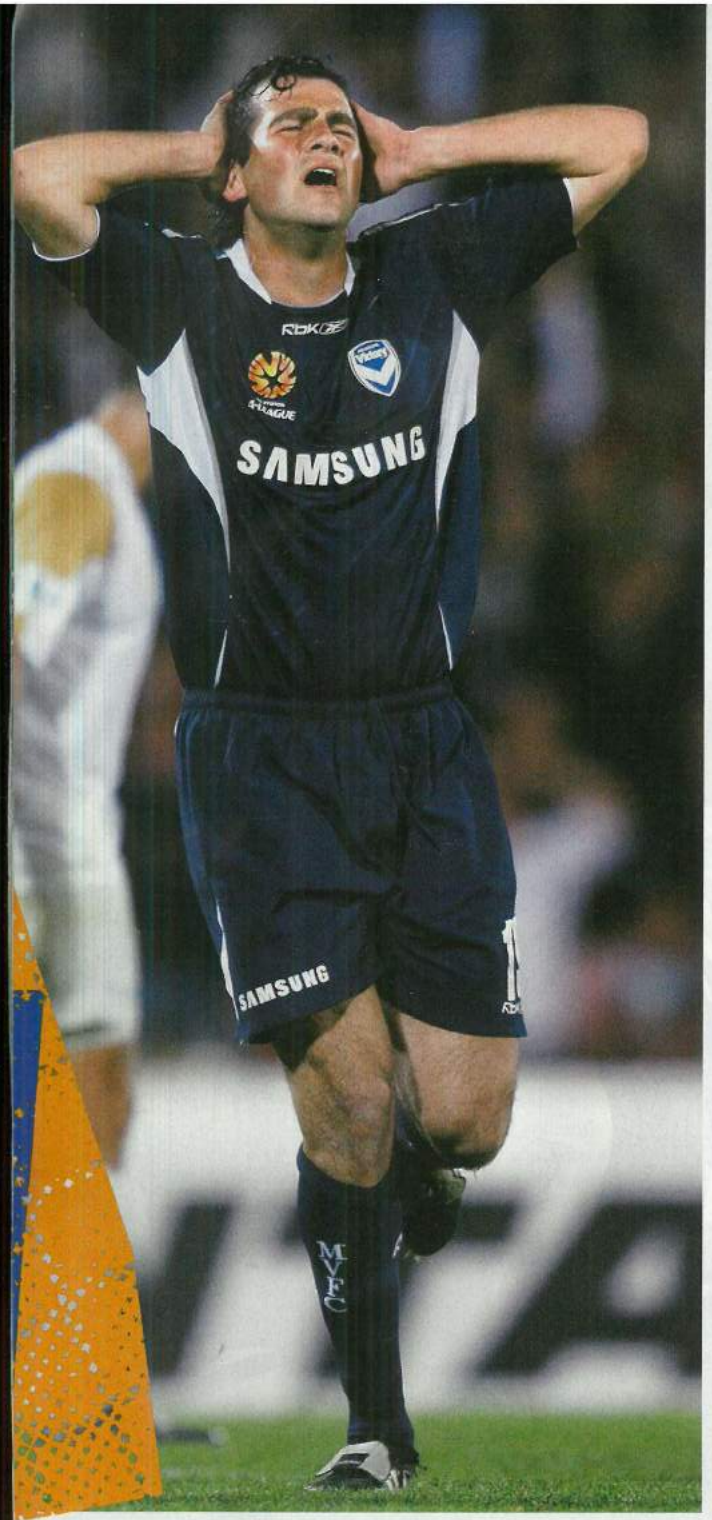
The most entertaining match of the round was at Gosford, where Adelaide came from behind to mug the Mariners with a two-goal burst in the last nine minutes. With Kristian Rees missing through suspension, the visitors pulled Angelo Costanzo back into central defence and dropped Carl Veart into midfield, while Michael Beauchamp (suspension) and Tom Pondeljak (wrist injury) both sat this one out for the home side.

"We're telling the boys we're playing away from home today," joked Lawrie McKinna, whose team has been as unreliable at home as Adelaide and almost as good on the road. The ploy looked like paying off with just 12 minutes gone when an astute touch by Andre Gumprecht opened up the visiting defence.

After Stewart Petrie won a free kick outside the Adelaide box, Gumprecht spotted John Hutchinson's run through the channel, took the kick early and the makeshift striker had all the time in the world to slot a left-foot shot past Beltrame and give the Mariners the edge in an evenly-balanced first half.

Hutchinson looked to have scored a second goal with an

Newcastle's Richard Johnson in action against Melbourne.



Victory's Ricky Diaco despairs after missing a goal against Newcastle.

unstoppable header from a fine cross by the irrepressible Gumprecht seven minutes before the break, but Adelaide breathed again as the flag went up.

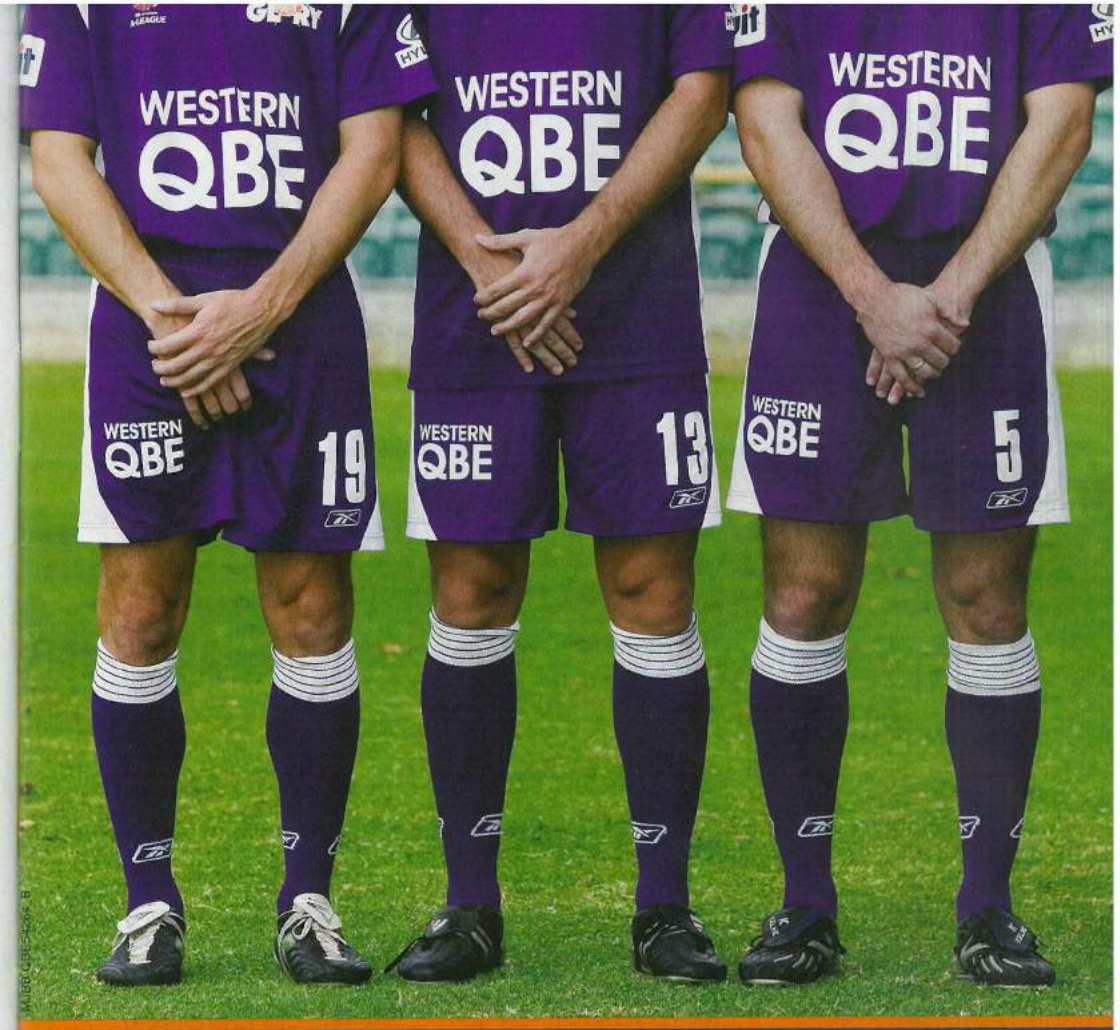
John Kosmina had his men fired up for the second half, but they left it late. There were just five minutes of regulation time remaining when Travis Dodd, coming off the bench, latched on to a loose ball in the box to blast the equaliser past Vukovich, one of Central Coast's best performers on the day.

United then rubbed salt in the wound when Rech, recovering faster from a heading contest outside the box, hit a swerving shot with the outside of his right boot and put United top of the table.

But only for a couple of hours. At Aussie Stadium acting captain David Zdrilic, deputising for the absent Dwight Yorke, took full advantage of a chance to shine in front of 13,030 home fans when he pounced on a rebound in the 53rd minute and forced the ball in off the right boot of a hapless Chad Gibson on the Queensland goal-line.

Sydney had Terry McFlynn back on duty but on the bench, while all eyes were on new signing Kazuyoshi "Kazu" Miura as he too waited to make his Sydney debut.

The best of the goal-mouth action came in the first half when Sasho Petrovski put a brilliant overhead kick just over the top, while at the other end Stuart



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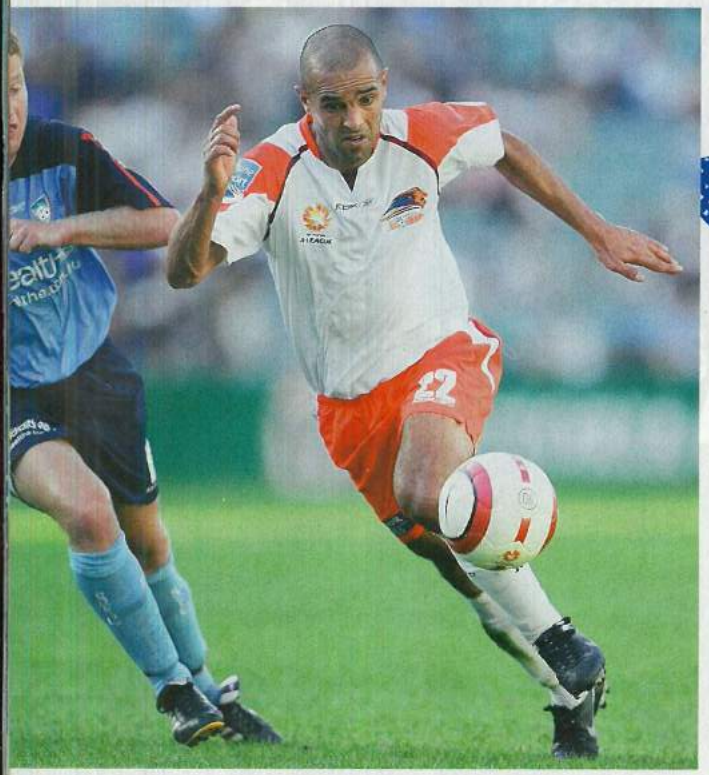

Sydney's David Carney pursues Roar's Osvaldo Carro.

McLaren, in action for the injured Josh McLoughan, should have done better with a short-range header that would have given the Roar the lead.

The goal came from one of the better movements of the game as Carney's left foot swept a pass to Petrovski on the left edge of the box. His right-foot effort broke back to Zdrilic on the right and on an acute angle, but somehow he forced it past Gibson. Zdrilic will no doubt claim it as his first goal of the competition.

Pierre Littbarski made the Sydney faithful wait 75 minutes before introducing Kazu, who impudently stepped up to take a free-kick just outside the box with his first touch but dragged the shot wide.

Friday November 18

MELBOURNE VICTORY VS CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

Olympic Park, Melbourne

For 85 minutes last week the Mariners were within two points of front-running Adelaide, yet they finished the game eight points adrift, still in seventh place. Still, only eight points cover seven teams. Lawrie McKinna must hope that leaving the unsafe haven of Gosford will see Central Coast continue the on-road form that has garnered 11 of their 15 points, and having big man Beauchamp back at the heart of the defence should help. John Hutchinson has scored twice in two games but will find that streak hard to extend against the miserly Melbourne defence, which should also have stalwarts Muscat and Claeys back on duty after suspension.

Saturday November 19

SYDNEY FC VS PERTH GLORY

Aussie Stadium, Sydney

This is the big game of the round, with league-topping Sydney hoping to repeat their Round Six win over in the west. They're on a four-match unbeaten run, and the consistent form of men like Steve Corica and the ability to spread the goal-scoring duties around is at the heart of it all. They weren't all that convincing in the 1-0 win over the Roar last time out, but another week's work on the training ground should help Kazu contribute more than his cameo debut. The Glory have also hit a hot streak with three wins and a

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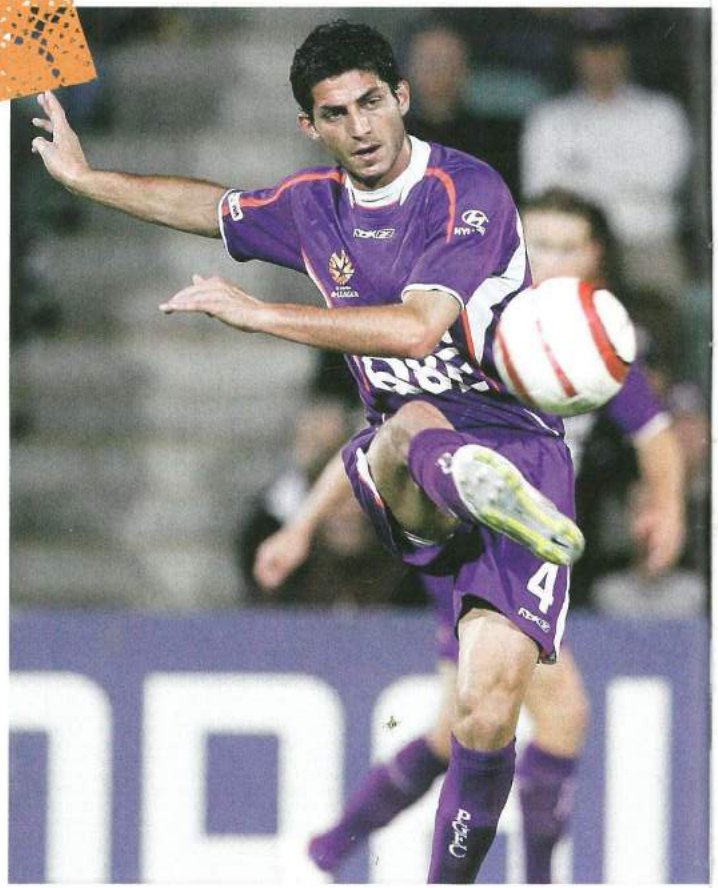
draw in their last four, but their away form has been topsy-turvy and Aussie Stadium is no place to have a hiccup.

Sunday November 20
ADELAIDE UNITED VS NEW ZEALAND KNIGHTS
Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide
It looks like the easiest pick of the round, doesn't it? League front-runners Adelaide, behind Sydney only on goal difference, waiting to collect three points against a trans-Tasman outfit that has managed just one win in 12 and leaked 29 goals in the process. But 18 of Adelaide's 23 points have come away from Hindmarsh Stadium, and the Knights' only three came on the Central Coast. Adelaide won their Round Six meeting 2-1 in Auckland, and funnily enough, that game saw Shengqing Qu score the second of only two goals to date. The Chinese star hit the post last week at Gosford in an eye-catching performance and can expect to add to that meagre tally this weekend as Veart and Aloisi boss things in the middle of the park.

Sunday November 20
QUEENSLAND ROAR VS NEWCASTLE JETS
Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane
The last time they met in Round Six, it was a Warren Moon goal that gave the Roar the points in Newcastle. Just two points separate the teams at this stage of the season, with Ned Zelic's well-drilled defence recovering well from that five-goal aberration against Perth six weeks ago.

The Jets haven't lost since then and they have scored freely away from home, so the warning signs are there for the Roar. Bleiberg's men have not won at Suncorp since they beat the Knights in the opening round of the season, and they haven't scored more than one goal on home turf since that day either. They could count themselves a little unlucky not to share the spoils in Sydney last time out when Ian Fyfe missed a golden chance to equalise.



Above: Perth's Simon Colosimo in action against New Zealand.

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE - ROUND 12 REVIEW

MELBOURNE VICTORY 0 NEWCASTLE JETS 0 Crowd: 12,407

PERTH GLORY 3 (Bobby Despotovski 12', Naum Selukovski 25', Nick Ward 69') **NEW ZEALAND KNIGHTS 0** Crowd: 9667

CENTRAL COAST MARINERS 1 (John Hutchinson 12') **ADELIADE UNITED 2** (Travis Dodd 85', Fernando Rech 90+1') Crowd: 5467

SYDNEY FC 1 (David Zdrilic 54') **QUEENSLAND ROAR 0** Crowd: 13,030

TABLE

	Played	Win	Draw	Loss	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Sydney FC	12	7	2	3	23	17	6	23
Adelaide United	12	7	2	3	17	15	2	23
Perth Glory	12	6	2	4	21	16	5	20
Newcastle Jets	12	5	3	4	18	15	3	18
Melbourne Victory	12	4	4	4	16	10	6	16
Queensland Roar	12	4	4	4	11	10	1	16
Central Coast Mariners	12	4	3	5	17	18	-1	15
New Zealand Knights	12	1	0	11	7	29	-22	3

INDIVIDUAL STATS PROVIDED BY SPORTSDATA

Goals		Goal Assists		Fouls Conceded		Tackles	
Bobby Despotovski (PG)	7	Tom Pondeljak (CCM)	5	Steve Pantelidis (MV)	32	Hyuk-Su Seo (QR)	62
Ante Milicic (NJ)	6	David Carney (SFC)	4	Stewart Petrie (CCM)	32	Kevin Muscat (MV)	60
Stewart Petrie (CCM)	6	Richard Alagich (AU)	3	Ross Aloisi (AU)	26	Simon Colosimo (PG)	53
Sasho Petrovski (SFC)	6	Nick Carle (NJ)	3	Andrew Clark (CCM)	26	Angelo Costanzo (AU)	50
Archie Thompson (MV)	6	Steve Corica (SFC)	3	Simon Colosimo (PG)	25	Steve Pantelidis (MV)	50
Damian Mori (PG)	5	Jamie Coyne (PG)	3	Richard Johnson (NJ)	24	Michael Beauchamp (CCM)	46
Dwight Yorke (SFC)	5	Ante Milicic (NJ)	3	Terry McFlynn (SFC)	24	Geoffrey Claeys (MV)	43
Kevin Muscat (MV)	4	Qu Shengqing (AU)	3	Alex Brosque (QR)	23	Zenon Caravella (NZK)	41
Noel Spencer (CCM)	4	Ross Aloisi (AU)	2	Hyuk-Su Seo (QR)	23	Andrew Clark (CCM)	41
Michael Baird (QR)	3	Alex Brosque (QR)	2	Travis Dodd (AU)	22	Ben Collett (NZK)	39

TEAM STATS PROVIDED BY SPORTSDATA

Goals		Goal Assists		Fouls Conceded		Tackles	
Sydney FC	23	Sydney FC	18	Adelaide United	202	Queensland Roar	357
Perth Glory	21	Perth Glory	13	Queensland Roar	191	Melbourne Victory	330
Newcastle Jets	18	Central Coast Mariners	13	Central Coast Mariners	189	New Zealand Knights	314
Adelaide United	17	Adelaide United	12	Melbourne Victory	184	Perth Glory	308
Central Coast Mariners	17	Newcastle Jets	10	Newcastle Jets	178	Adelaide United	295
Melbourne Victory	16	Melbourne Victory	9	Sydney FC	176	Sydney FC	280
Queensland Roar	11	Queensland Roar	6	New Zealand Knights	173	Central Coast Mariners	257
New Zealand Knights	7	New Zealand Knights	5	Perth Glory	157	Newcastle Jets	252

SLATER SAYS
WITH ROBBIE SLATER

THE BIG DRAW

The arrival of Kazuyoshi "Kazu" Miura proves the Hyundai A-League's standing on the world stage.

The Hyundai A-League just keeps producing quality football, and following the debut of Kazuyoshi "Kazu" Miura last weekend, we look set to enjoy the talents of another high-profile import. Despite being in the twilight of his career, there should be no illusions about the shrewdness of Kazu's signing by Sydney.

Kazu is a talismanic figure in his native Japan, something that most people at Aussie Stadium last weekend may have gathered from the massive presence from the Japanese media at the ground. It should also not be forgotten that he has a distinguished playing history in leagues around the world and internationally, having scored an amazing 58 goals in 91 internationals.

Sydney FC has certainly signed Kazu with two aims in mind. Not only has his addition provided another proven international talent to complement Dwight Yorke, David Zdrilic and Sasho Petrovski up front, but his marketing appeal for Sydney FC in the FIFA Club World Championships in Japan will be enormous. Through Kazu, Sydney FC will be playing virtual home matches in Japan.

His debut was reduced to a 15-minute outing against the Queensland Roar in which his opportunities were limited. His work mostly involved chasing down defenders as Queensland looked for an equaliser. For me, the most impressive thing was his physical condition. At 38, he is the oldest player in the league, aside from the recently departed Brian Deane. But his pace and physical shape looked as good as ever.

It once again shows that the Hyundai A-League is capable of attracting top talent to play on these shores. That should not be forgotten. Good players don't migrate from their home countries to play in bad leagues. There are too many quality leagues for that to be necessary. Football Federation Australia can again take the plaudits for developing a competition to attract such players.

Just look at Archie Thompson. Few would have coupled his return to domestic football in Australia with his ascendancy into the Australian starting lineup. But that has been the case.

For many, the idea of Dwight Yorke and Kazu playing together in an Australian club side may not mean a lot. But for those who know football and support the game in this country, its importance is hard to overlook. Personally, I cannot wait to see them line up together, because the results promise to be devastating when Yorke returns from international duty with Trinidad and Tobago.

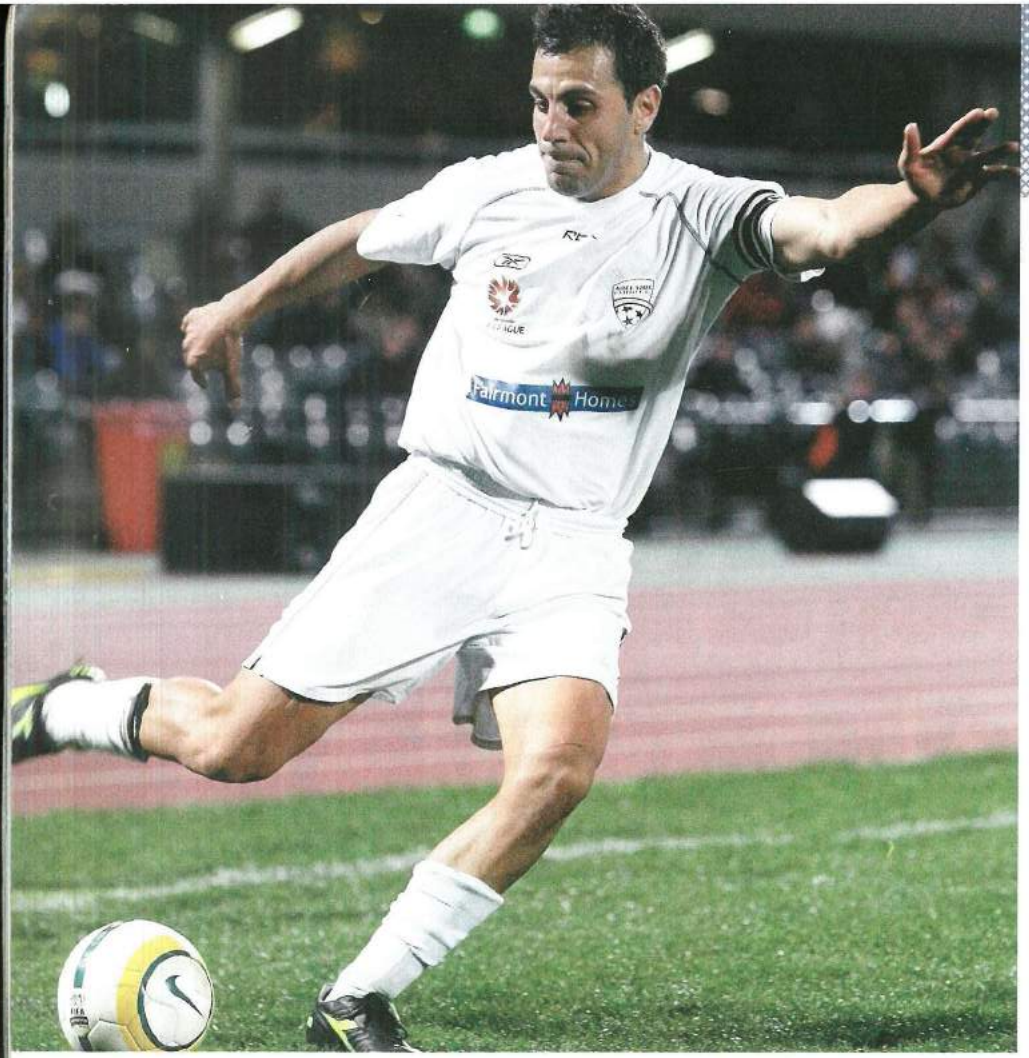
Enjoy the action, and I will see you next week.

Robbie Slater is chief football analyst for Fox Sports and the Hyundai ambassador for football in Australia

Sydney FC's new signing Kazuyoshi Miura.

ALOISI ON ALOISI

They may play on different continents, but Adelaide brothers John and Ross Aloisi are joined at the hip – and have been for most of their lives. Here, they describe each other's football and lives, from backyard games as kids to checking the other's form half a world away.



Ross in action for Adelaide United.

It's been a huge year for the Aloisi brothers. Ross Aloisi has led his beloved Adelaide United to the top of the Hyundai A-League table, while John Aloisi – three years his junior – has been the Qantas Socceroos' deadliest striker, and continues to impress for Alaves in the tough Primera Liga in Spain. The two brothers told Total Football how they have spurred each other on to be the great, but very different, footballers they are today.

JOHN ON ROSS

As kids, in our garden in Hectorville (Adelaide) we had almost no grass left because Ross and I wore it out playing every sport under the sun. The laundry window was always broken from flying footballs.

Our games were super-competitive and would usually end up in a fight, which is probably why Ross still fights on the field these days.

Mum would bring out the broomstick and tell us to calm down and do something else for a while, but nothing could stop us. We'd be back at it in 10 minutes, imitating the Adelaide City players again. If it started to rain, we'd move the game into the garage. If it got dark, we'd get out the spotlight.

Being three years older, Ross proved to me that success was possible. When he played in the national under-17s team, I thought, I can do that. Same again for the Olympic team, then the Qantas Socceroos.

"Mum would bring out the broomstick and tell us to calm down and do something else for a while, but nothing could stop us."

Despite beating me up in the backyard, Ross has always looked out for me, and because he's now played football in seven countries, he has good advice too. I can call Ross and he'll tell me not to play in a particular country because it's crap or that the football is better in another league.

After the Confederations Cup this year, when I scored four goals against world-class opposition, he called me to tell me how proud he was and that I'd proved myself to everyone in Australia.

Off the field, we're actually very similar people, Ross and I. We have the same temperament and laugh at the same stupid things, although some people say Ross is louder than me. But on the field, we are really different players. He's right-footed, I'm left-footed. He's a midfielder, I'm a striker. I'm bigger and stronger, but he can play a deft through-ball.

I'm sure Adelaide owes a lot of its success to Ross's captaincy, because he works so hard on the field and his work ethic rubs off on his teammates. That'll be why they are winning. He's also a good guy everyone respects, but who can still make you laugh.

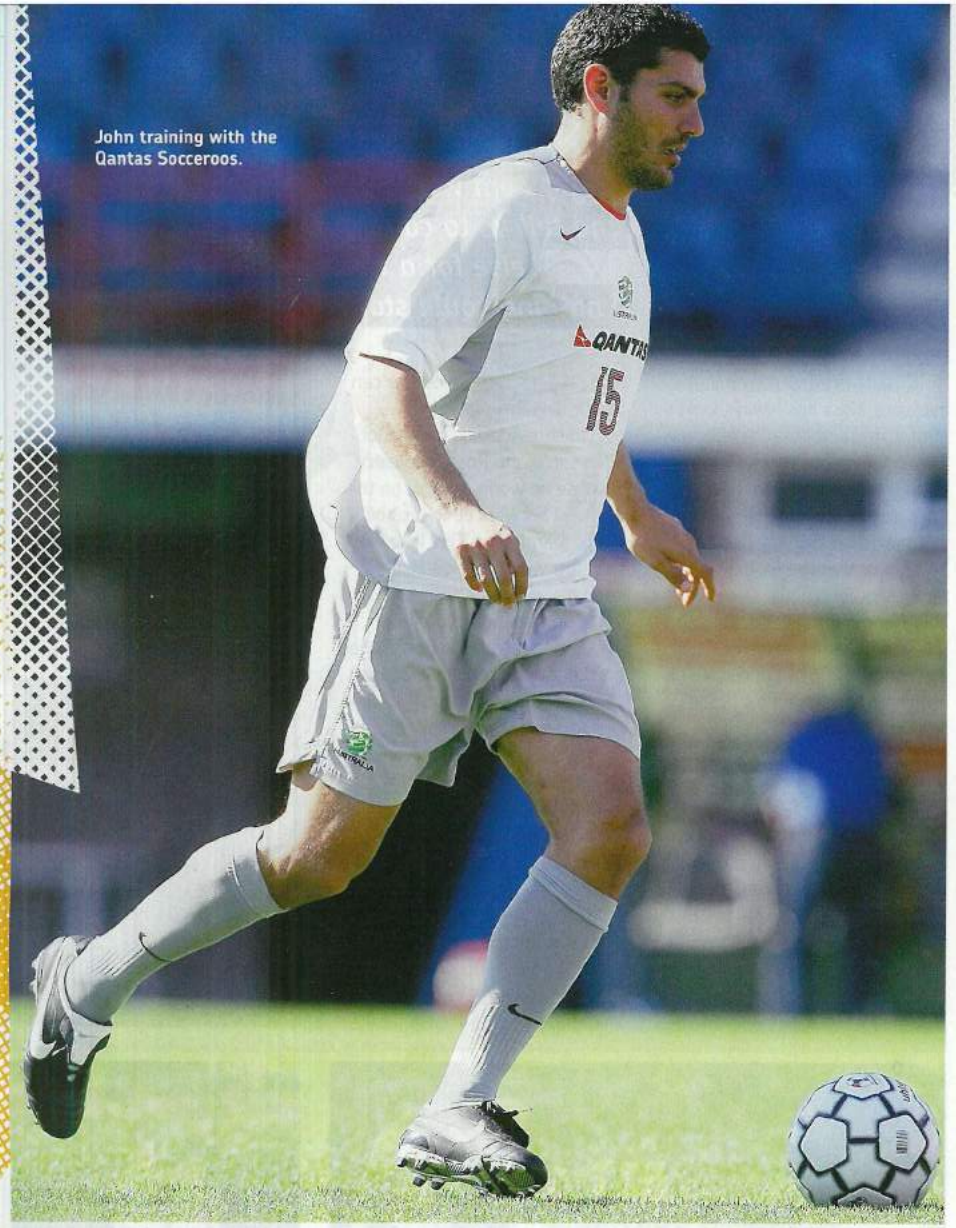
Even though I'm in Spain, I get on the internet each week and check out how Ross and Adelaide United went on the weekend.

I'm not saying it will definitely happen, but I'd love to play with Ross again in Adelaide. My family would be rapt, because they've only seen us both on the same field for one season in the state league, years ago. Back then, Ross was our best player, but I beat him by one goal for top scorer. I wouldn't mind having the chance to do that again!

Below: John and Ross imitating Adelaide City players in the family backyard.

Left: Ross at training as a junior.

Above: The brothers in the front yard at the family home in Adelaide.



John training with the Qantas Socceroos.

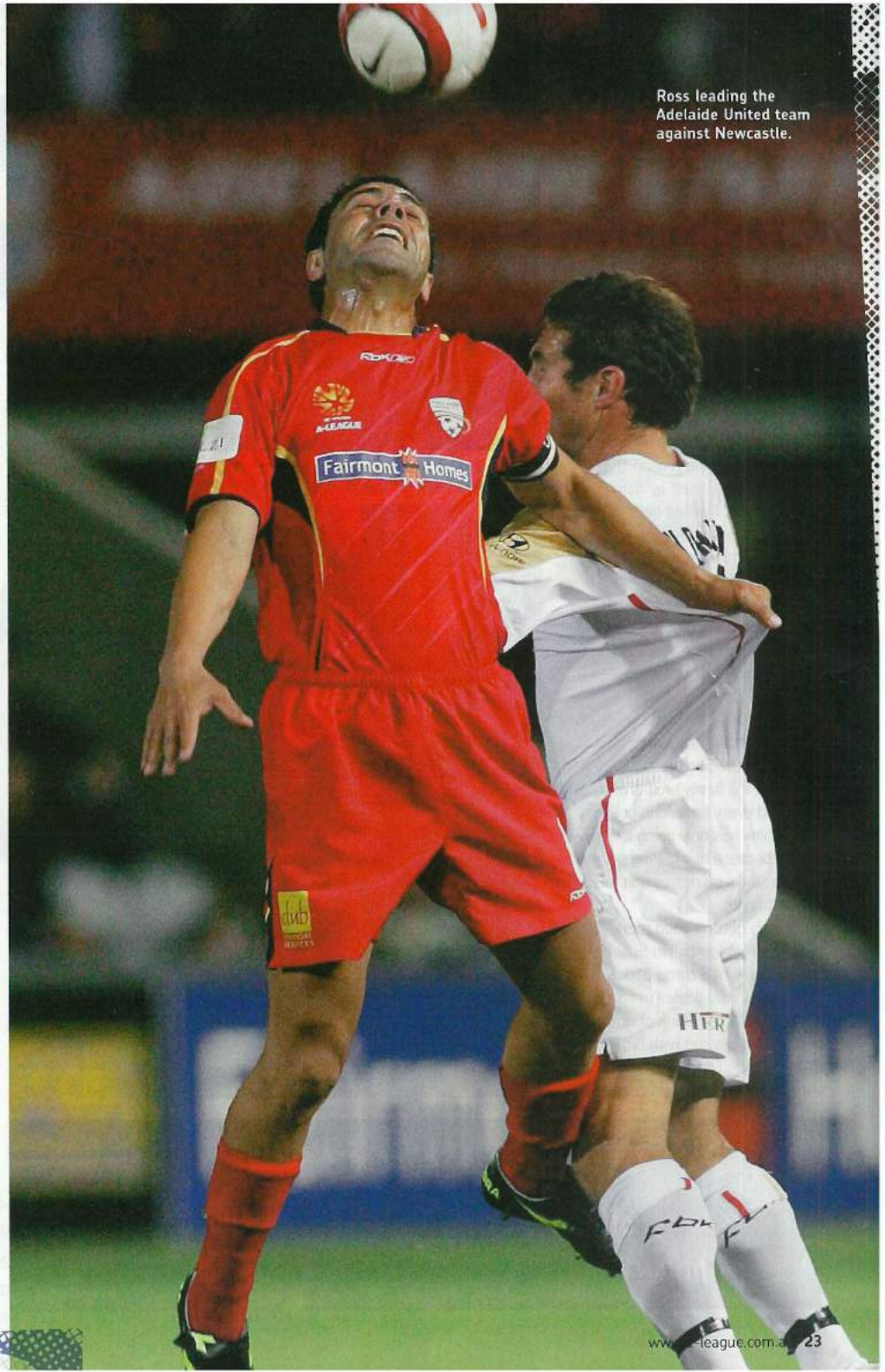
ROSS ON JOHN

He's played in the English Premier League and he's scored goals. He's played in Italy's Serie A and he's scored goals. He's played in Spain's Primera Liga and he's scored goals. The three toughest leagues in the world and he's always scored.

That gets you respect – not like playing in Austria or Switzerland, like I did.

No way am I jealous, though. His success is my success; we are brothers, we are one. It's always been like that. My parents brought us up telling us we are blood. My dream is to watch John score the winning goal for Australia at the World Cup.

I think being the younger brother helped John, because I'd always beat him and he had to struggle and struggle to win, while I got lazy. He was always a better dribbler than me and he'd dance wildly while I just stood there and hacked at his legs until he fell over. Then I'd hold him down and call him "pomodoro



Ross leading the Adelaide United team against Newcastle.

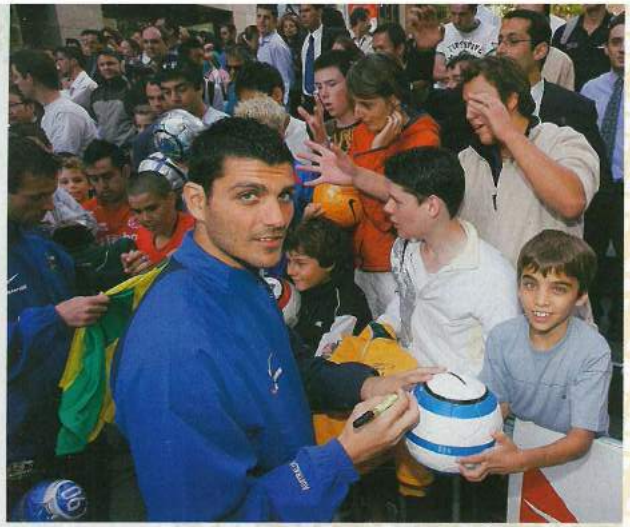
nose" (tomato nose) because he doesn't have a bone in his nose and you can squish it flat to his face. This torture only drove him on and he eventually got better than me.

Even though I tormented him, John always supported me, sometimes in strange ways. When he was nine and I was 12, he came to Sydney to watch me play for the state team. I was playing with kids a year older and wasn't getting on the park. John was superstitious, and he got into his head for some reason that if he punished himself by doing sit-ups, then I would get a game.

The first day he did 50 sit-ups and I was still on the bench. So he did 100 the next day and then doubled it each day until I got a game. Imagine that – a kid of nine years old wanting his brother to succeed so badly.

Nowadays it's me who watches him play on the telly. When he was playing for the Socceroos the other day, I had the family around and we squealed every time John got the ball. I think he's only going to get better, because he's getting smarter and he soaks up moves and tactics like a sponge.

John's getting good money and playing great football in Spain, so I'm not sure he'll come back to Adelaide United while I'm still playing, but I can think of nothing better than playing with him at the club we love. That way, we'd be sure to win the championship.



Above: John at a public appearance with the Qantas Socceroos.
Below: Ross with his family in Adelaide.

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SYDNEY FC

THE BOY'S A BIT SPECIAL

KRISTIAN SARKIES

MELBOURNE VICTORY

AGE: 19 **POSITION:** Midfielder

WORDS: Stuart Sykes
PHOTOS: Nicole Cleary

When you're 19, gifted and itching to show the world what you can do, being dropped is the last thing on your mind.

But that's what's happened to Melbourne Victory midfielder Kristian Sarkies a few weeks ago. Sarkies was widely tipped to be one of the breakthrough players when the Hyundai A-League got under way a couple of months ago.

"A bit disappointed," is how the former South Melbourne youngster describes how he felt about being left out of the squad for a few weeks.

"It's a bit frustrating to see the side losing points when you're sitting on the sidelines," adds Sarkies, whose name is a mix of his UK and Armenian heritage, but he's a fourth-generation Aussie.

"But what can you do?", he adds, only to give us the answer to that question himself.

"I've been training really, really hard," he says. "Naturally, I've been working hard with the team, but I've been doing extra sessions on my own: repetitive sprints, a lot of ball-work and working on my free kicks." Those free kicks are one of the trademarks of the Sarkies game.

The good thing about his situation is that he and Victory coach Ernie Merrick go back a long way, to their Victorian Institute of Sport days, and Sarkies knows his best interests are at heart as well as the team's.

"I thought I was a bit out of form at the start of the season, but Ernie gave me a real go," acknowledges the former Young Socceroo, "but then it was a blow to be left out. He's told me he

"When you've got a talent you want to exploit it, waking up each day to go and do something you love."

wants to see me really fight for my place."

That's fighting talk – the stuff a good boxer is made of – and Sarkies is determined to get back into his equivalent of the ring.

Born into an Aussie Rules-crazy family, Kristian got the round-ball bug from a neighbour and family friend brought up in Liverpool – the Merseyside variety, that is, not the Sydney suburb.

He took full advantage of Everton's interest in him last year to nip over Stanley Park to Anfield and enjoy Liverpool's come-from-behind Champions' League win over Olympiakos. "It gave me goose bumps," admits the lifelong Liverpool fan whose name, ironically, was being linked at one stage with their current arch-rivals Chelsea.

Bent on making a big-time career in the game, Sarkies was delighted with his chance at the FIFA World Youth Championship Netherlands 2005.

"It was amazing to play against Holland, in Holland, with a team full of superstars," he says. "Naturally you want to be playing with the best players in the world. It's not all about money. When you've got a talent you want to exploit it, waking up each day to go and do something you love."

First, though, he had to fight his way back into the Victory line-up. An opening came his way when Victory lost not only Archie Thompson to the Australia squad on international duty in Uruguay, but also had experienced defenders Kevin Muscat and Geoffrey Claeys sent off in the 1-0 upset at home to the Roar – the two men Sarkies cites straight away as having helped him most in the new setup at Olympic Park.

"A few boys are going to have to stand up and be counted," said Ernie Merrick ahead of the team's 0-0 draw against Newcastle last week, where Sarkies came on in the 65th minute.

And on this Melbourne morning, Sarkies is just finishing a pretty testing training session with the squad, but there is still work to be done. Setting aside his favourite house and rap music for the time being and packing the Playstation away, back to the training-ground he goes. As Sarkies himself says, "The harder you train, the luckier you get."

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MELBOURNE VICTORY

Player Profiles

MICHAEL THEOKLITOS 1

GOALKEEPER

Born 11-2-81 Games 2
Height 186cm Goals 0
Weight 93kg

Former South Melbourne keeper who also a season with Blackpool in England. Won the Victorian championship with Bulleen, saving four penalties in the Grand Final.

STEVE PANTELIDIS 6

DEFENDER/MIDFIELDER

Born 17-8-83 Games 12
Height 182cm Goals 0
Weight 83kg

Started out as a centre-back or full-back, but been turned into a defensive midfielder to give the team more bite in the centre of the park.

KEVIN MUSCAT 2

DEFENDER

Born 7-8-73 Games 11
Height 180cm Goals 4
Weight 76kg

Victory's inaugural captain, Muscat needs little introduction as the Qantas Socceroos' legendary hardman. Played overseas in England and Scotland for a decade.

MICHAEL FERRANTE 7

MIDFIELDER

Born 28-4-81 Games 12
Height 172cm Goals 0
Weight 73kg

Ferrante is the face of the Victory in the league's TV ads. He was a teammate of England internationals Joe Cole and Michael Carrick in the West Ham youth team.

DANIEL PIORKOWSKI 3

DEFENDER

Born 28-4-81 Games 2
Height 187cm Goals 0
Weight 81kg

Elegant centre-half or right-back whose progress has been stymied by injury. Missed a whole season after injuring a knee in the under-20 World Cup in 2003.

ANDY VLAHOS 8

MIDFIELDER

Born 20-4-76 Games 12
Height 171cm Goals 0
Weight 73kg

Like teammates Claeys and Thompson, Vlahos came to Melbourne from Belgium. He was playing at the top level with Cercle Brugge.

MARK BYRNES 4

DEFENDER

Born 8-2-82 Games 7
Height 184cm Goals 0
Weight 81kg

Won an NSL championship with Perth and played in Italy, Austria and, more recently, Finland. Will be out for several weeks after sustaining a groin strain.

DANIEL ALLSOPP 9

STRIKER

Born 10-8-78 Games 11
Height 184cm Goals 1
Weight 88kg

Another returning to his homeland, Allsopp spent several years in England. Started out with Manchester City, then moved around, scoring freely for Hull City and Notts Country.

GEOFFREY CLAEYS 5

DEFENDER

Born 5-10-74 Games 11
Height 185cm Goals 0
Weight 80kg

Belgian international who played in World Cup qualifiers. Has also been with top Dutch team Feyenoord in the Champions League. Good in the air and calm on the ball.

ARCHIE THOMPSON 10

STRIKER

Born 23-10-78 Games 9
Height 174cm Goals 6
Weight 70kg

The star striker on whom so many of Victory's hopes are pinned. Super fast with a great change of direction, Thompson has become a regular face in Socceroo squads.

VINCE LIA 11

MIDFIELDER

Born 18-5-85 Games 8
Height 177cm Goals 0
Weight 73kg

Versatile – has played as a wing-back, striker and central-midfielder. Made his NSL debut as a 16-year-old, and captained Australia at the under-20 World Cup.

SIMON STOREY 16

DEFENDER

Born 5-6-82 Games 4
Height 179cm Goals 0
Weight 70kg

Made his NSL debut with South Melbourne after scooping under-21 state player-of-the-year honours with Green Gully. Loves to get forward.

CARL RECCHIA 12

DEFENDER/MIDFIELDER

Born 13-12-84 Games 8
Height 178cm Goals 0
Weight 80kg

A versatile youngster debuted with South Melbourne in the old NSL. A utility player who can operate as either full-back, centre-back or as a holding midfielder.

RICHARD KITZBICHLER 17

MIDFIELDER

Born 12-1-74 Games 11
Height 172cm Goals 3
Weight 74kg

Highly-experienced Austrian campaigner who has played for many of the leading clubs in his native country as well as collecting 17 caps for the national team.

KRISTIAN SARKIES 13

MIDFIELDER

Born 25-10-86 Games 10
Height 177cm Goals 0
Weight 78kg

Many judges rate Sarkies as one of the brightest young prospects in the Australian game. Hard-working midfielder with good touch and plenty of creativity.

CHRIS TADROSSE 18

MIDFIELDER/DEFENDER

Born 10-9-85 Games 5
Height 172cm Goals 0
Weight 75kg

Went to the most recent under-20 World Cup with the Young Socceroos. A quick, left-sided player who has operated as both a winger and a defender.

ADRIAN LEIJER 15

DEFENDER

Born 25-3-86 Games 12
Height 186cm Goals 1
Weight 80kg

One of several players in this squad who played together at under-17 and under-20 international level. A tall defender who can play either in the middle or on the left.

RICKY DIACO 19

STRIKER

Born 6-6-82 Games 8
Height 183cm Goals 1
Weight 87kg

Gets his shot at the big league later than many, but has shown in limited pre-season opportunities that he relishes the chance. Last year's State League player of the year.

EUGENE GALEKOVIC 20

GOALKEEPER

Born 12-6-81 Games 9
Height 186cm Goals 0
Weight 91kg

Australia's first-choice keeper at the Athens Olympics, former South Melbourne custodian Galekovic has just returned from a year in Portugal.

MELBOURNE VICTORY

Homeground:
Olympic Park, Melbourne

Coach:
Ernie Merrick

Captain:
Kevin Muscat

No.	Name	Position	Goals
1.	Michael Theoklitos	Goalkeeper	
2.	Kevin Muscat	Defender	
3.	Daniel Piorkowski	Defender	
4.	Mark Byrnes	Defender	
5.	Geoffrey Claeys	Defender	
6.	Steve Pantelidis	Defender/Midfielder	
7.	Michael Ferrante	Midfielder	
8.	Andy Vlahos	Midfielder	
9.	Daniel Allsopp	Striker	
10.	Archie Thompson	Striker	
11.	Vince Lia	Midfielder	
12.	Carl Recchia	Defender/Midfielder	
13.	Kristian Sarkies	Midfielder	
15.	Adrian Leijer	Defender	
16.	Simon Storey	Defender	
17.	Richard Kitzbichler	Midfielder	
18.	Chris Tadrosse	Midfielder/Defender	
19.	Ricky Diaco	Striker	
20.	Eugene Galekovic	Goalkeeper	

TEAM SCORE

Half-time	Full-time
0-1	0-2

CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

Homeground:
Central Coast Stadium

Coach:
Lawrie McKinna

Captain:
Noel Spencer

No.	Name	Position	Goals
1.	John Crawley	Goalkeeper	
2.	Wayne O'Sullivan	Midfielder	
3.	Paul O'Grady	Defender	
4.	Noel Spencer	Midfielder	
5.	Michael Beauchamp	Defender	
6.	Andre Gumprecht	Midfielder	
7.	John Hutchinson	Midfielder	1
8.	Dean Heffernan	Midfielder	1
9.	Nick Mrdja	Striker	
10.	Tom Pondeljak	Midfielder	
11.	Damien Brown	Midfielder	
12.	Stewart Petrie	Striker	
13.	Russell Woodruffe	Striker	
14.	Leo Carle	Midfielder	
15.	Andrew Clark	Defender	
16.	Nigel Boogaard	Defender	
17.	Matthew Osman	Midfielder	
18.	Alex Wilkinson	Defender	
19.	Adam Kwasnik	Striker	
20.	Danny Vukovic	Goalkeeper	

TEAM SCORE

Half-time	Full-time
1-0	2-0

CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

Player Profiles

JOHN CRAWLEY — 1
GOALKEEPER

Born 5-3-72 **Games** 5
Height 186cm **Goals** 0
Weight 90kg

Spent five years in the NSW Premier League with Blacktown City. Also played in South America for top Chilean side Colo Colo for five seasons.

WAYNE O'SULLIVAN — 2
MIDFIELDER

Born 23-2-74 **Games** 10
Height 173cm **Goals** 0
Weight 72kg

A crowd favourite, the former Northern spirit player is a tireless midfield worker. An Irish youth international, he played with the Parramatta Power and Northern Spirit.

PAUL O'GRADY — 3
DEFENDER

Born 6-11-78 **Games** 0
Height 194cm **Goals** 0
Weight 93kg

An NSL grand finalist with Parramatta, O'Grady is a tall defender who has also had overseas experience in Singapore.

NOEL SPENCER — 4
MIDFIELDER

Born 26-7-77 **Games** 12
Height 193cm **Goals** 4
Weight 80kg

The Mariners captain, Spencer is a former Northern Spirit player. He boasts a fierce long-distance shot and will be a key component of the Mariners midfield.

MICHAEL BEAUCHAMP — 5
DEFENDER

Born 8-3-81 **Games** 8
Height 191cm **Goals** 0
Weight 85kg

A surprise call-up by Socceroo coach Guus Hiddink for the August training camp in the Netherlands, the centre-back will be looking to push for full international honours

ANDRE GUMPRECHT — 6
MIDFIELDER

Born 26-11-74 **Games** 12
Height 177cm **Goals** 1
Weight 79kg

Genuine box-to-box midfielder, this compact German is a proven top-level performer, having played in NSL Grand Finals with Perth Glory and Parramatta Power.

JOHN HUTCHINSON — 7
MIDFIELDER

Born 29-12-79 **Games** 11
Height 188cm **Goals** 3
Weight 77kg

A pacy midfielder who is always an attacking threat with his speed and dribbling ability. Previously played with Northern Spirit in the NSL.

DEAN HEFFERNAN — 8
MIDFIELDER

Born 19-5-80 **Games** 12
Height 188cm **Goals** 3
Weight 85kg

Previously with Sydney United in the NSL, Heffernan made a big impression during the pre-season competition. Also played at Wollongong in the NSL.

NICK MRDJA — 9
STRIKER

Born 30-11-78 **Games** 0
Height 188cm **Goals** 0
Weight 85kg

Mrdja went down in Australian football history as the last-ever NSL goalscorer when his golden-goal strike for Perth Glory gave them Grand Final victory in April 2004.

TOM PONDELJAK — 10
MIDFIELDER

Born 8-1-76 **Games** 8
Height 175cm **Goals** 0
Weight 72kg

Well-travelled and highly talented, this ex-Socceroo midfielder's pace, skill and abilty to strike from distance have always made him a handful for opposition defences.

DAMIEN BROWN — 11
MIDFIELDER

Born 12-1-75 **Games** 7
Height 175cm **Goals** 0
Weight 69kg

A local boy who came to Central Coast from Newcastle. His performances in the pre-season competition showed he can deliver at this level.

STEWART PETRIE — 12
STRIKER

Born 27-2-70 **Games** 9
Height 178cm **Goals** 6
Weight 80kg

Rugged Scottish striker now in the veteran stage, Petrie still has the ability to cause problems for defences. Spent 10 years at Scottish Premier League side Dunfermline.

RUSSELL WOODRUFFE — 13
STRIKER

Born 8-11-85 **Games** 5
Height 181cm **Goals** 0
Weight 75kg

Australian youth international who impressed enough in trial matches to win a contract. Returned to Australia from Bury in England.

LEO CARLE — 14
MIDFIELDER

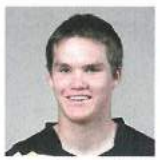
Born 6-6-80 **Games** 7
Height 175cm **Goals** 0
Weight 76kg

Strong on the ball, the creative left-sided midfielder is the older brother of Newcastle's Nick. Played for the Olyroos and represented Australia in the Beach Football World Cup.

ANDREW CLARK — 15
DEFENDER

Born 24-8-74 **Games** 12
Height 181cm **Goals** 0
Weight 75kg

Local product whose strengths are his power and fitness. Played in the NSL with Parramatta and Canberra, and in Asia with Malaysian club Kedah.



NIGEL BOOGAARD — 16
DEFENDER

Born 14-8-86 **Games** 0
Height 187cm **Goals** 0
Weight 86kg

Australian youth international formerly with Newcastle, Boogard is the youngest player in the Mariners line-up and one of the club's under-20 signings.

MATTHEW OSMAN — 17
MIDFIELDER

Born 29-7-83 **Games** 10
Height 183cm **Goals** 0
Weight 73kg

A former Northern Spirit player like several of his teammates, this Young Socceroo is a quick and tough utility who can play in defence or midfield.

ALEX WILKINSON — 18
DEFENDER

Born 13-8-84 **Games** 12
Height 187cm **Goals** 0
Weight 78kg

A lanky defender who can play on the flanks or in the middle of the back four, Wilkinson has been a regular in the national teams at under-17 and under-20 level.

ADAM KWASNIK — 19
STRIKER

Born 31-5-83 **Games** 9
Height 180cm **Goals** 1
Weight 73kg

Quick-footed frontman, Kwasnik is rated as one of the country's top finishers by his coach. Had NSL experience with Northern Spirit.

DANNY VUKOVIC — 20
GOALKEEPER

Born 27-3-85 **Games** 7
Height 187cm **Goals** 0
Weight 96kg

Current Australian under-20 goalkeeper, Vukovic will understudy Crawley and offers solid cover for the first-choice gloveman.

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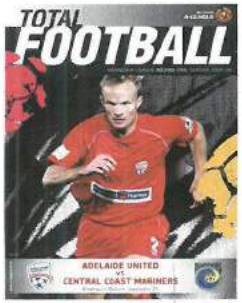

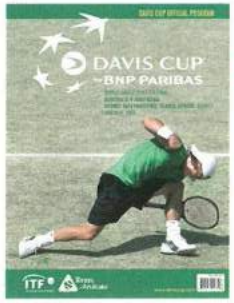

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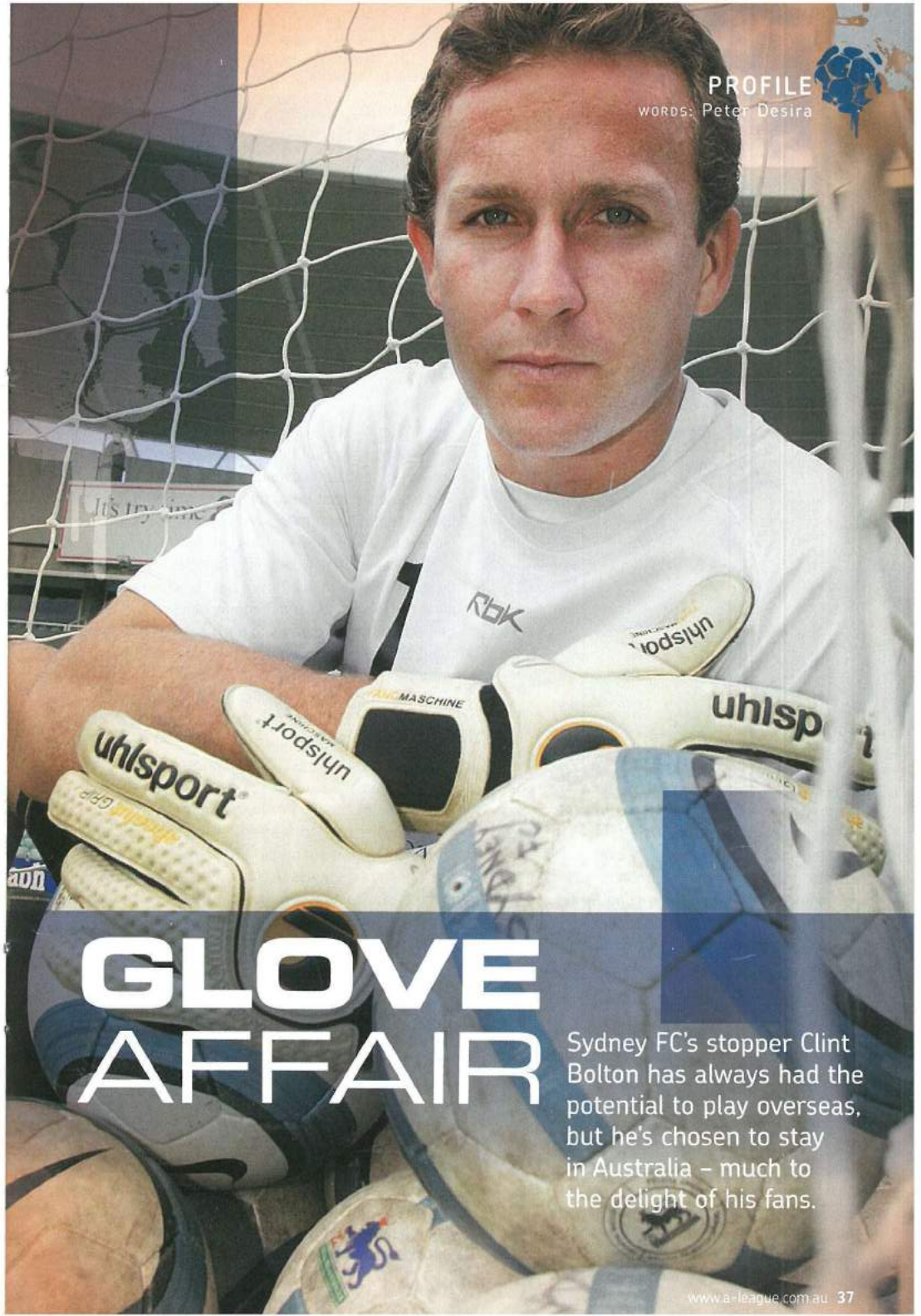
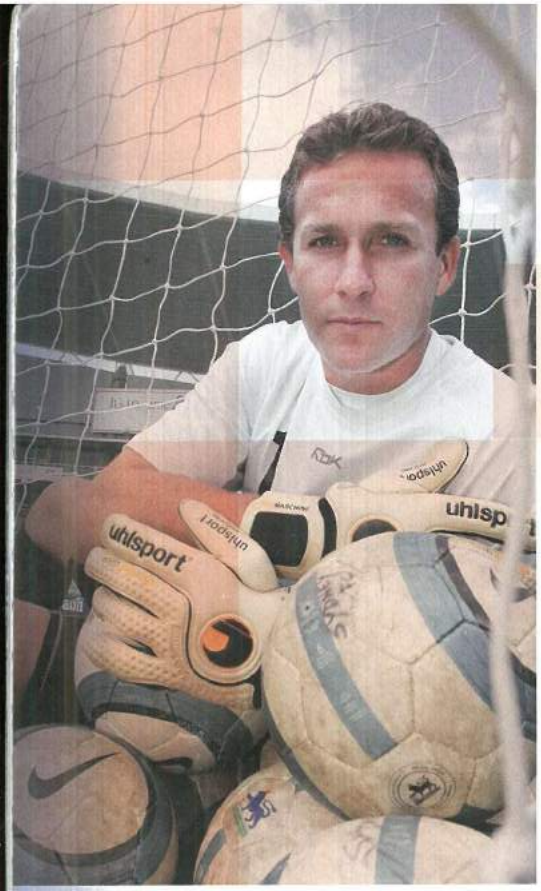


WORDS: Peter Desira

GLOVE AFFAIR

Sydney FC's stopper Clint Bolton has always had the potential to play overseas, but he's chosen to stay in Australia – much to the delight of his fans.



Clint Bolton would go close to nudging Australian football great Paul Trimboli as the best Australian player to not go overseas.

He is one of Australia's best-ever goalkeepers but, by his own admission, probably has not had recognition at international level because he has chosen to stay in Australia.

At 30 years of age, he has amassed a CV that includes two national championships, two state grand finals, a goalkeeper of the year award and representing Australia at three levels – in the Young Socceroos, the Olyroos, and three senior caps.

He's also not into making big statements. But get him to open up and you'll find a rich character with strong thoughts and convictions about the game.

Not the least of which is the fact that the recent World Cup playoff against Uruguay wasn't the biggest thing to happen to Australian football in past few years.

"The biggest change since Football Federation Australia has been formed has been getting into Asia," Bolton says.

"Making a World Cup certainly accelerates the process of football becoming a permanent fixture in the sporting culture of this country, but in the future, the move into Asia will be seen as the biggest stepping-stone in that process."

Goalkeeper for Sydney FC, Bolton is recognised by some as one the country's best goalkeeper. He's aware of the mantle and is comfortable with it, but he's put in the hard yards to earn it. He is not afraid to admit that if he was more driven, he could have done more in his career.

"I'll back my ability against any other keeper, any day, but I think the fact that I'm not playing in Europe has worked against me.

"I've got three caps, I didn't concede a goal in those three games, I didn't put a foot wrong for the Qantas Socceroos, so I've no real regrets.

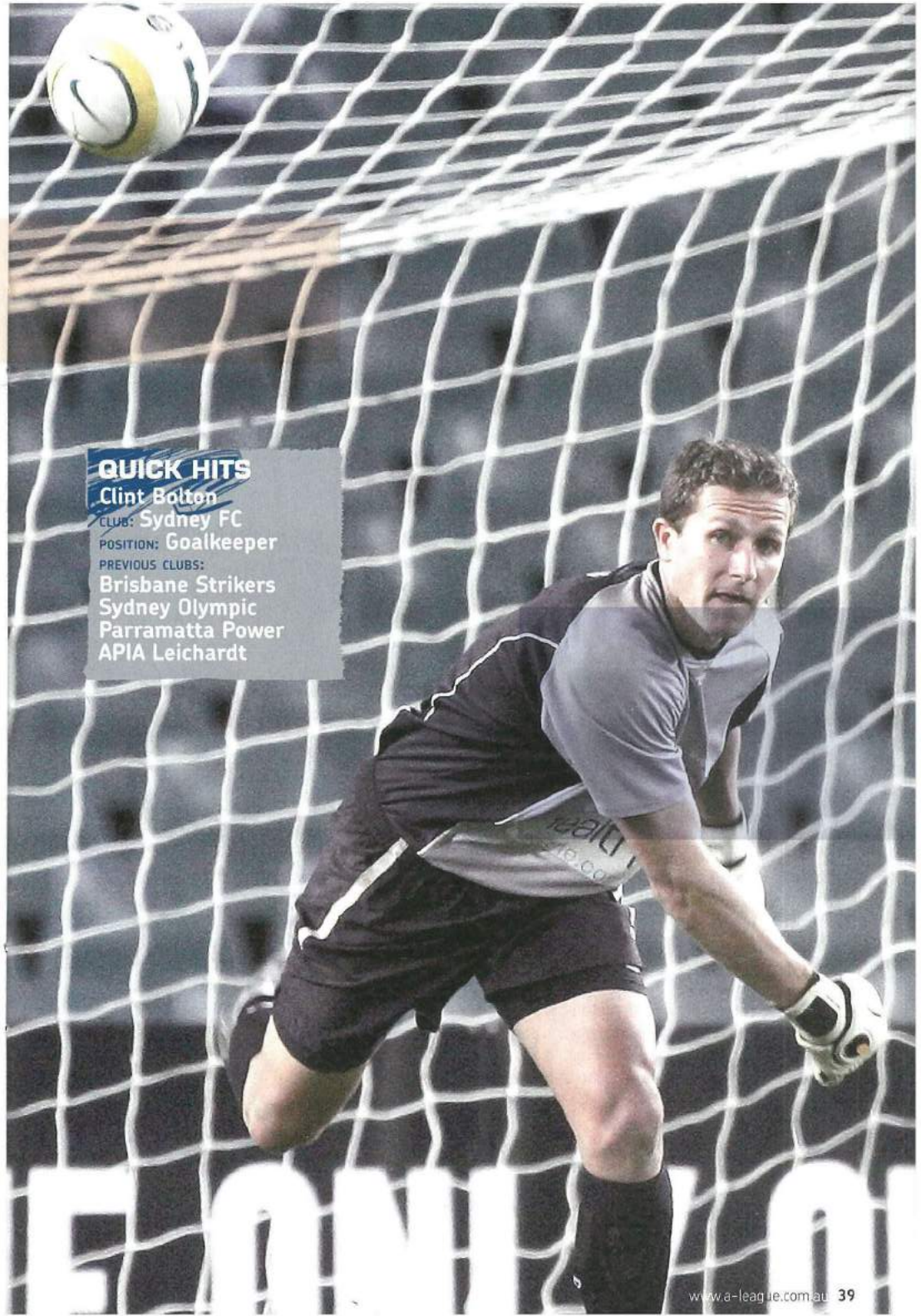
"All I will say is, that whenever I went into camp, it was a hard environment to impress as a keeper. Most of the time I was brought in as a second keeper. But training with the Qantas Socceroos was never intense. It was always a matter of freshening up – it was never competitive."

So why hasn't Bolton followed in the footsteps of Mark Schwarzer, Zeljko Kalac, John Filan, Michael Petkovic and Ante Covic and sought a move overseas?

"I have had one trial at Manchester City, just last year actually," Bolton reveals.

"Initially, I got off the plane at Heathrow and all I wanted to do was turn around and go home. England itself had no appeal to me – the weather, the food, that sort of thing.

"But once I set foot on the Manchester City training ground, I was hooked. I'd never seen a setup like it before. Everything was on a scale way above the old national league.



QUICK HITS
Clint Bolton
CLUB: Sydney FC
POSITION: Goalkeeper
PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Brisbane Strikers
Sydney Olympic
Parramatta Power
APIA Leichardt

Bolton in action against Queensland Roar.

"I was very happy with the way I trained that week, I couldn't have done much better. But visa problems and reluctance by the coaches to take a chance on someone that hadn't played in Europe before ... it cost me at the end of the day.

Bolton played 11 seasons in the old national league and then – like a lot of players – endured 18 months without a top-level competition in this country.

Surprisingly, he looks back on the time as the renaissance of his career.

"Initially, I just got away from football, I had played non-stop for 11 years and the mind starts to crave a bit of change."

Once the Hyundai A-League began to take form, the keeper settled on Sydney FC - and had a rude awakening.

"The start was a shock to the system to me. Coming from Leichhardt, where we were doing three nights a week, we went to 10 sessions a week to begin with. We put in a lot of hours on the park, we were doing three-hour sessions, and there were 10 of them a week."

Which begs the question: What is Pierre Littbarski like as a coach?

"I can't say enough good things about him. I have the utmost respect for him as a person, and obviously his football knowledge is indescribable."

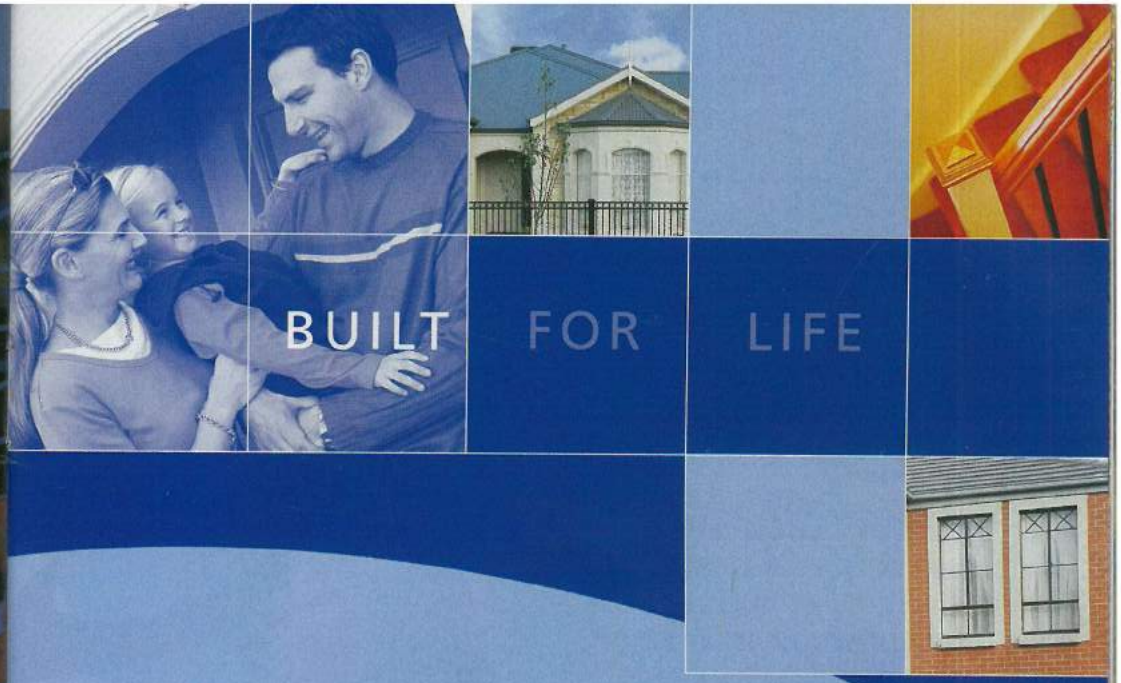
Having made the crossover from the old national league to the Hyundai A-League, can Bolton make a judgement call on the difference in standard between the two competitions?

"It's hard to measure it. The Hyundai A-League's an improvement – it is more intense, there are no easy games, there's no time in the game when you can go and hide.

"Especially being part of Sydney, we're targeted by every other team. You only have to look at the way teams play either side of playing us - you can see that every team lifts against us.

"So far we've played in front of big crowds in just about every game we've played. If you use that as a gauge, the signs are really good."

Peter Desira covers football for the Herald Sun *in Melbourne.*



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WORDS: Aidan Ormond
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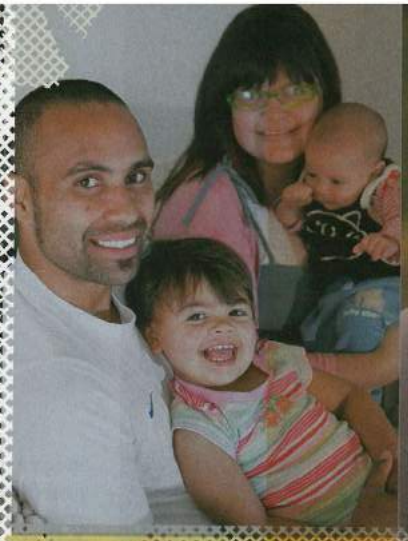
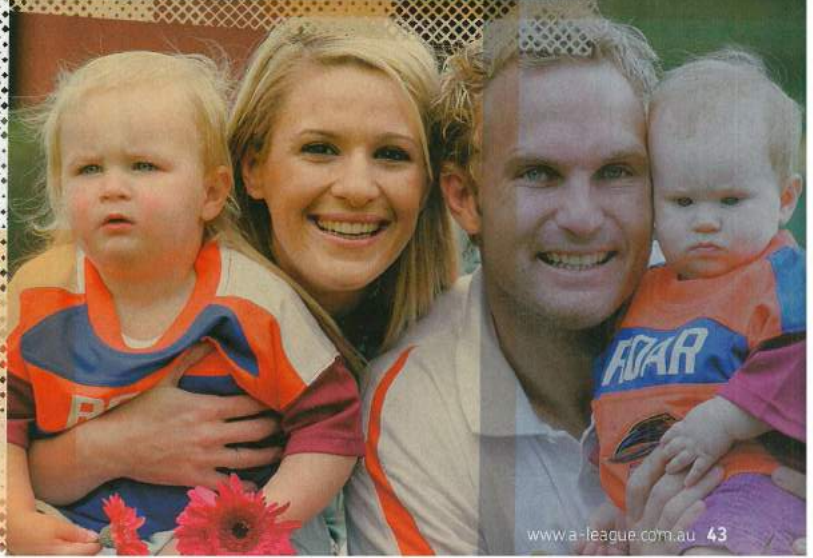
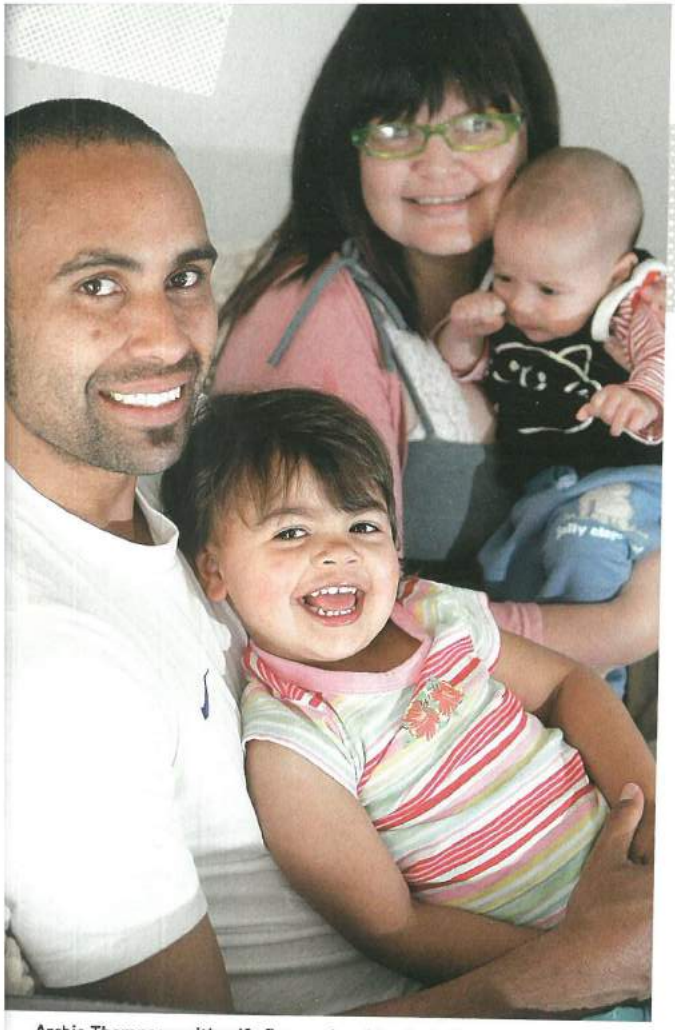
DOUBLE TEAMS

Forget the trashy soap opera, being partnered to a professional footballer means transplanting life from city to city and life-changing experiences.

Nadia Coppola, partner of Roar player Alex Brosque.







Archie Thompson with wife Emmy, daughter Isabella and baby son Axel.

Archie Thompson is living the football dream. His club career has taken him from country Victoria to Melbourne, Sydney, Belgium and back to Melbourne, as well as playing all over the world with the Qantas Socceroos.

But what effect does this continual packing up and leaving have on the women who live with the Hyundai A-League's stars? Emmy Thompson has been with Archie for the last seven years, and says moving to Belgium had its challenges.

"Meeting the players' wives was a little uncomfortable at times," she recalls of her husband's 2001 transfer from Marconi to Lierse. "It may have been the language barrier, but it could have been their attitude.

"A lot of them were pretty arrogant. But we made some great friends," adds Emmy, the mother of newly born Axel and three-year-old Isabella.

And Emmy's even become slightly European. "We're really feeling the heat here and it's not even that hot yet," she laughs.

Thompson adds that when a football couple starts a family, things change. "When we were first together, travelling was such an adventure. Going to Belgium, we smiled all the way there.

"The disadvantages for us now are uprooting the kids and finding new playgroups," she says of a move back overseas.

Nadia Coppola, girlfriend of Queensland Roar forward Alex Brosque, has also been smiling following the couple's move to Queensland this year. The pair, who have been together for nearly three years, were in Belgium last season before a hasty exit from Brosque's club, Westerlo.

It taught her a valuable lesson about life with a footballer. "We envisaged staying in Belgium for longer than we did. We had heaps of stuff and only a couple of weeks to clear our apartment," she says.

"Everything happened so quickly. I guess that's the life of a professional footballer. Things can change when you least expect it," she says. Fortunately for tech-savvy people like Nadia, the internet and webcams are handy tools for staying in touch with friends and family back home.

"Everything happened so quickly. I guess that's the life of a professional footballer. Things can change when you least expect it ..." - Nadia Coppola

Venita Valkanis always wanted to live in her country of origin, Greece. When husband Michael, the Adelaide United defender, got the opportunity to play for Iraklis in 1996, it was a natural fit. They were there for six years.

However, the Greek attitudes were a little frustrating. "They are very laid-back," says the mother of newly born Dimitri. "Getting things done wasn't as efficient as it is in Australia."

But Venita is settled in Adelaide largely because, as she says, it's is easy to get around and she can visit her family in Melbourne on a more regular basis.

Aussie footballers have also spent time in Asia. Mirijana Milcic, wife of Newcastle Jets striker Ante Milicic, enjoyed the couple's time in Malaysia last year when Ante played for

Venita and Michael Valkanis prior to the birth of their son, Dimitri.

Stacy and Royce Brownlie with daughters Summer, 2, and Jordan, 9 months.

Kuantan-based team Pahang.

"In Kuantan, people were fascinated chatting with us because they could practise their English," she recalls. "I was overwhelmed with how hospitable they were to us. They respected our culture and we respected theirs," says Mirjana.

"There was a Senegalese family we met. Tasting their food and learning their culture ... we have made life-long friendships and still keep in touch," she adds.

But the move to the Hunter is one Mirjana – who's been with Ante for 10 years – is enjoying. "Newcastle is a superb city," declares the mother of two-year-old Daniel (she's expecting a second child next year).

"If I had to choose a contract for Ante in the A-League, it would have been Newcastle. It's a great location; the city is small and brilliant for families. They say, 'Happy family, happy footballer'."

However, Mirjana notes that while her husband is a top Hyundai A-League marksman, his home handyman skills leave a lot to be desired.

The northern connection goes both ways, with Asian players arriving here, too. One such player is Adelaide United's Chinese striker Shengquing Qu.

Qu has had to adapt to a completely different language, customs and lifestyle. The move hasn't been easy on his wife, either. Xin Wang says that she misses her family support network.

"In China, I always had my parents to assist me with anything I had a problem with. When I first arrived, there was no friendship group to help."

Wang makes the observation that there are no advantages to being a footballer's wife, but notes that Adelaide United has helped her settle in.

And she enjoys her visits to Hindmarsh Stadium, but not so much for her husband and his team. "I like the pre-match entertainment," she says.

However, one couple that hasn't lasted the distance is Knights English import Ronnie Bull and his wife Donna Marie. Homesickness, together with a family illness, conspired to make it difficult for the former Millwall player to settle in New Zealand.

The couple, who came to New Zealand with their two children, are now back in England after he was released by mutual consent. "It became obvious we weren't settling as we wanted," the player said.

Vanessa and Daniel Allsopp have been through a lot together. They were high school sweethearts at 15 and are still together 11 years later.

The pair were married five years ago and were based in the UK for seven before Daniel returned home to play with Melbourne Victory this year. As a couple, they went to England while still in their teens.

"Initially when we moved it was very difficult as we were both only 19 and going into the unknown," says Vanessa, whose two-and-a-half year old son Ethan was born overseas.

"After Daniel signed for Manchester City in 1998 we settled in, but it took about a year to adjust."

However, she's not complaining. "I've gotten to see a lot of the UK and have experienced life in another country," she says of Daniel's time with six clubs in England and Wales.

"I've seen a lot of the world as he's taken me on lots of fantastic holidays," adds Vanessa, who is due to give birth again early next year.

Stacy Brownlie loves doing a bit of travelling, too. So, getting married to Roar striker Royce has suited her nicely. "Moving interstate and overseas was exciting and adventurous," she says.

"We have moved to Sydney three times, travelled to England and Scotland twice and now moved back to Brisbane."

The couple, who have been together for almost seven years, have two girls – Jordan, who's nearly two, and nine-month-old Summer. "If the opportunity presented, we would be happy to travel once again," she adds.

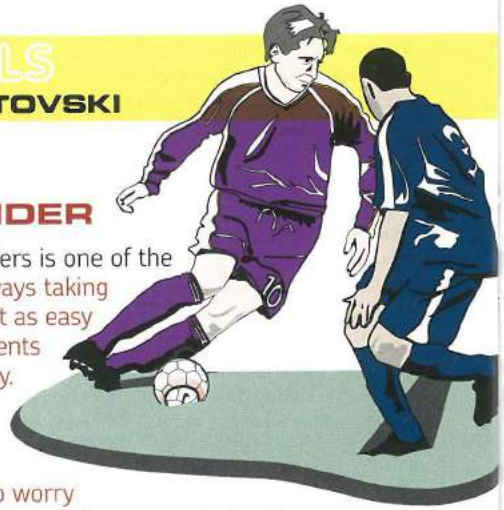
As Stacy notes, "Having to move is never the most enjoyable thing to do, but it is all part of the experience."

Missing people is one thing all of us have experienced. And these Hyundai A-League women – who have left loved ones and friends behind across the world – know better than most how this feels.

Adelaide's Shengqing Qu with partner Xin Wang.

WORDS: Brian Curtis

FOOTBALL SKILLS
WITH BOBBY DESPOTOVSKI



This week's skill:
> TURNING YOUR DEFENDER

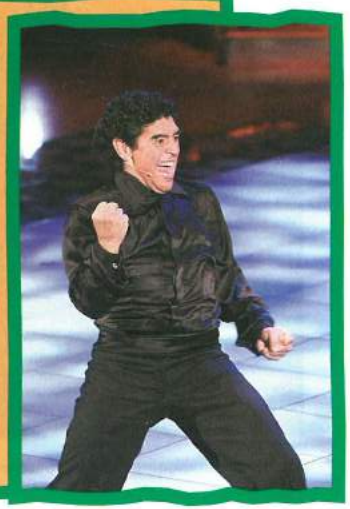
When you are attacking goal, getting past defenders is one of the biggest obstacles you will you face. Instead of always taking on defenders directly, smart players try to make it as easy for themselves as possible by fooling their opponents into going the wrong way through a feint or decoy. Turning your defender means that you misdirect your opponent, causing him to turn one way while you head in the other direction. If you can successfully turn your defender, you don't need to worry about performing a perfect one-on-one move, because the person trying to defend your attack is already heading in the opposite direction.

BOBBY SAYS:

"How you turn your defender depends on how and when the ball is played and which way your defender is already moving. If the ball is already on your left and the defender is heading that way, the simplest thing is to catch him on the wrong foot by breaking suddenly to the right and bringing the ball with you. Make your move quickly and catch your defender off guard."

What in the weird?

When Diego Maradona captained his national team to a victory in the 1986 World Cup, millions of fans watched it on TV. Although television helped make him a household name around the world, he has always had a love-hate relationship with TV. Maradona is notorious for having shot at reporters with an air rifle and for insulting the Pope on national TV. Now Maradona is back on the screen: he has appeared on Italy's version of *Dancing With the Stars* (right), and hosts his own talk show. And he may have one more chance to have his face broadcast all over the world. The Argentinean Football Association has invited Maradona to return to his former national team for a coaching role with the Albiceleste in the FIFA World Cup 2006.



FOOTBALL FOR DUMMIES

Do you get a kick out of football?
Whether you're a weekend amateur player, a football parent or a World Cup fan, here at last is the book you've been waiting for.

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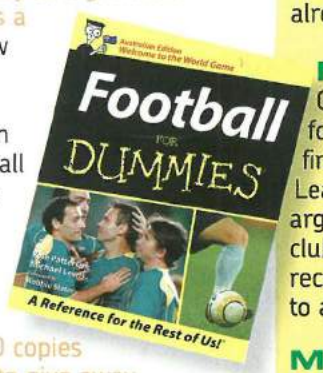

Total Football and John Wiley Publishers have 10 copies of this great book to give away.
All you have to do is answer the following question:

WHAT FOOTBALL SKILL WOULD YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM WHICH PLAYER, AND WHY?

Mail your entry to *Football for Dummies* Competition, News Custom Publishing, PO Box 14611, Melbourne MC VIC 8001 before December 9 to win.

M A-Z OF FOOTBALL

Join us as we work our way through the football alphabet.

Damian Mori
The current Australian record holder for most goals scored in international competition (29 in 45 matches). Former Qantas Socceroo Damian Mori was recently secured on a temporary basis by Perth Glory, where he has already had a big impact

Manchester United
One of the most successful English football teams in history. They haven't finished at the top of the Premier League for a few years, but "Man U" is arguably England's most famous soccer club. At home, the team's loyal fans recently protested the sale of the club to an American businessman.

Midfield
Possibly the most demanding position on the pitch. Midfielders must mount attacks as well as defend. Famous midfielders include Zinedine Zidane, David Beckham (right) and Diego Maradona.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
1. Information on how to enter and the prize form part of these conditions of entry. Only entries that comply with these terms and conditions will be eligible.
2. The promoter is the Herald & Weekly Times Pty Limited, HWT Tower, 40 City Rd, Southbank, Melbourne 3006 (ABN 49 004 113 937 (HWT).
3. This competition is open to all residents of Australia except employees and the immediate families of HWT.
4. There are no age restrictions and competition is open to all ages.
5. Entry to the competition is free and entrants can enter as many times as they wish. Entrants must send in the original entry form with all entries.
6. Competition involves you telling us "What skill you would like to learn and from which player and why?" 10 winners will be chosen.
7. Competition opens on Friday 18th November,2005 and closes at 6pm (EST) on Friday 9th December, 2005. Entries will be judged on Monday 12th December,2005. Winner will be notified by phone and advertised in *The Australian* – Public Notice section on Saturday 17th December 2005
8. The prize consists of a copy of the book *Football for Dummies*. Valued at $39.95RRP
9. Entries are to be mailed to: *Football for Dummies* Competition C, News Custom Publishing, PO Box 14611 Melbourne MC, VIC 8001.
10. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Judging will be by suitably qualified judges (from within the NCP staff) who are able to assess the quality and creativity of the entries and each entry will be judged on its merits. Chance plays no part in determining the winner.
11. The winner will be notified by phone. Please allow 28 days after competition closes for delivery of prize.
12. Prize is not redeemable for cash, and is subject to availability.
13. Details from all entries will be collected and used for the purposes of conducting this promotion (which may include disclosure to third parties for the purpose of processing and conducting the promotion) and for publicity purposes surrounding this promotion. The Promoters, for publicity purposes, may use the name and image of the winners. HWT's privacy policies are available at privacy@hwtnewsltd.com.au. By entering this promotion, unless otherwise advised, each entrant also agrees that the Promoters may use this information in any media for future promotional, marketing and publicity purposes without any further reference, payment or other compensation to the entrant, including sending the entrant electronic messages. A request to access, update or correct any information should be directed to each of the Promoters at their addresses set out above.

FIXTURE

ROUND	FIXTURE	VENUE	KICK-OFF
ROUND 1			
Fri 26 Aug 05	Newcastle Jets FC 0 **Adelaide United FC 1**	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00 pm
Fri 26 Aug 05	Perth Glory FC 0 **Central Coast Mariners FC 1**	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	8.00 pm
Sun 28 Aug 05	**Queensland Roar FC 2** New Zealand Knights FC 0	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	3.00 pm
Sun 28 Aug 05	Sydney FC 1 Melbourne Victory FC 1	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00 pm
ROUND 2			
Fri 2 Sep 05	New Zealand Knights FC 1 **Sydney FC 3**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Fri 2 Sep 05	Adelaide United FC 0 Queensland Roar FC 0	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30 pm
Sun 4 Sep 05	Central Coast Mariners FC 1 Newcastle Jets FC 1	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	3.00 pm
Sun 4 Sep 05	Melbourne Victory FC 2 Perth Glory FC 2	Olympic Park, Melbourne	5.00 pm
ROUND 3			
Fri 9 Sep 05	**Adelaide United FC 1** Melbourne Victory FC 0	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30 pm
Sat 10 Sep 05	Central Coast Mariners FC 0 **New Zealand Knights FC 2**	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.35 pm
Sat 10 Sep 05	**Perth Glory FC 2** Queensland Roar FC 1	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.35 pm
Sun 11 Sep 05	**Newcastle Jets FC 2** Sydney FC 1	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00 pm
ROUND 4			
Fri 16 Sep 05	Sydney FC 2 **Central Coast Mariners FC 3**	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sat 17 Sep 05	Perth Glory FC 1 **Adelaide United FC 2**	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.35 pm
Sun 18 Sep 05	Queensland Roar FC 1 Melbourne Victory FC 1	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	3.00 pm
Sun 18 Sep 05	**Newcastle Jets FC 4** New Zealand Knights FC 0	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00 pm
ROUND 5			
Thu 22 Sep 05	New Zealand Knights FC 0 **Perth Glory FC 1**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Fri 23 Sep 05	Queensland Roar FC 1 **Sydney FC 3**	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	8.00 pm
Sun 25 Sep 05	Adelaide United FC 1 Central Coast Mariners FC 1	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30 pm
Sun 25 Sep 05	**Melbourne Victory FC 1** Newcastle Jets FC 0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	5.00 pm
ROUND 6			
Fri 30 Sep 05	Central Coast Mariners FC 1 **Melbourne Victory FC 2**	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00 pm
Sat 1 Oct 05	Newcastle Jets FC 0 **Queensland Roar FC 1**	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	7.35 pm
Sat 1 Oct 05	Perth Glory FC 1 **Sydney FC 2**	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.35 pm
Sun 2 Oct 05	New Zealand Knights FC 1 **Adelaide United FC 2**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	6.00 pm
ROUND 7			
Fri 7 Oct 05	Queensland Roar FC 1 Central Coast Mariners 1	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	8.00 pm
Sat 8 Oct 05	Newcastle Jets FC 1 **Perth Glory FC 5**	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	7.35 pm
Sun 9 Oct 05	**Sydney FC 2** Adelaide United 1	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00 pm
Mon 10 Oct 05	**Melbourne Victory FC 3** New Zealand Knights FC 0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	7.00 pm
ROUND 8			
Fri 14 Oct 05	Adelaide United FC 2 **Newcastle Jets FC 4**	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30 pm
Sun 16 Oct 05	**Melbourne Victory FC 5** Sydney FC 0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	1.00 pm
Sun 16 Oct 05	New Zealand Knights FC 0 **Queensland Roar FC 2**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	6.00 pm
Sun 16 Oct 05	**Central Coast Mariners FC 4** Perth Glory FC 0	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	5.00 pm
ROUND 9			
Fri 21 Oct 05	**Sydney FC 2** New Zealand Knights 0	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sat 22 Oct 05	Queensland Roar FC 1 **Adelaide United FC 2**	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.30 pm
Sun 23 Oct 05	**Newcastle Jets FC 1** Central Coast Mariners 0	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00 pm
Sun 23 Oct 05	**Perth Glory FC 2** Melbourne Victory 1	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	5.00 pm
ROUND 10			
Fri 28 Oct 05	Melbourne Victory FC 0 **Adelaide United FC 1**	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00 pm
Sat 29 Oct 05	New Zealand Knights FC 1 **Central Coast Mariners FC 3**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Sat 29 Oct 05	Queensland Roar FC 0 Perth Glory FC 0	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.30 pm
Sun 30 Oct 05	Sydney FC 1 Newcastle Jets FC 1	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00 pm
ROUND 11			
Fri 4 Nov 05	New Zealand Knights FC 2 **Newcastle Jets FC 4**	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Fri 4 Nov 05	Melbourne Victory FC 0 **Queensland Roar 1**	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00 pm
Sat 5 Nov 05	Central Coast Mariners FC 1 **Sydney FC 5**	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00 pm
Sun 6 Nov 05	Adelaide United FC 2 **Perth Glory FC 4**	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	4.30 pm
ROUND 12			
Fri 11 Nov 05	Melbourne Victory FC 0 Newcastle Jets FC 0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00 pm
Fri 11 Nov 05	**Perth Glory FC 3** New Zealand Knights FC 0	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.00 pm
Sun 13 Nov 05	Central Coast Mariners FC 1 **Adelaide United FC 2**	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	3.00 pm
Sun 13 Nov 05	**Sydney FC 1** Queensland Roar FC 0	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00 pm

ROUND	FIXTURE	VENUE	KICK-OFF
ROUND 13			
Fri 18 Nov 05	Melbourne Victory FC vs Central Coast Mariners FC	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00 pm
Sat 19 Nov 05	Sydney FC vs Perth Glory FC	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sun 20 Nov 05	Adelaide United FC vs New Zealand Knights FC	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	4.30 pm
Sun 20 Nov 05	Queensland Roar FC vs Newcastle Jets FC	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	6.00 pm
ROUND 14			
Fri 25 Nov 05	Central Coast Mariners FC vs Queensland Roar FC	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00 pm
Fri 25 Nov 05	Perth Glory FC vs Newcastle Jets FC	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.00 pm
Sat 26 Nov 05	New Zealand Knights FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Sun 27 Nov 05	Adelaide United FC vs Sydney FC	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	4.30 pm
ROUND 15			
Thu 1 Dec 05	Queensland Roar FC vs New Zealand Knights FC	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00 pm
Fri 2 Dec 05	Newcastle Jets FC vs Adelaide United FC	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00 pm
Sat 3 Dec 05	Sydney FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sun 4 Dec 05	Perth Glory FC vs Central Coast Mariners FC	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	5.00 pm
WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - WEEK ENDING 11 DECEMBER 2005			
WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - WEEK ENDING 18 DECEMBER 2005			
WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - WEEK ENDING 25 DECEMBER 2005			
ROUND 16			
Thu 29 Dec 05	Melbourne Victory FC vs Perth Glory FC	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00 pm
Fri 30 Dec 05	New Zealand Knights FC vs Sydney FC	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Sat 31 Dec 05	Central Coast Mariners FC vs Newcastle Jets FC	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	6.00 pm
Sun 1 Jan 06	Adelaide United FC vs Queensland Roar FC	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30 pm
ROUND 17			
Thu 5 Jan 06	Adelaide United FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30 pm
Fri 6 Jan 06	Sydney FC vs Newcastle Jets FC	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sat 7 Jan 06	Perth Glory FC vs Queensland Roar FC	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.00 pm
Sun 8 Jan 06	Central Coast Mariners FC vs New Zealand Knights FC	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	5.00 pm
ROUND 18			
Thu 12 Jan 06	Perth Glory FC vs Adelaide United FC	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.00 pm
Fri 13 Jan 06	Newcastle Jets FC vs New Zealand Knights FC	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00 pm
Sat 14 Jan 06	Sydney FC vs Central Coast Mariners FC	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sun 15 Jan 06	Queensland Roar FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	6.00 pm
ROUND 19			
Thu 19 Jan 06	New Zealand Knights FC vs Perth Glory FC	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Fri 20 Jan 06	Adelaide United FC vs Central Coast Mariners FC	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30 pm
Sat 21 Jan 06	Queensland Roar FC vs Sydney FC	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00 pm
Sun 22 Jan 06	Newcastle Jets FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00 pm
ROUND 20			
Thu 26 Jan 06	Newcastle Jets FC vs Queensland Roar FC	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00 pm
Fri 27 Jan 06	Central Coast Mariners FC vs Melbourne Victory FC	Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00 pm
Sat 28 Jan 06	New Zealand Knights FC vs Adelaide United FC	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00 pm
Sun 29 Jan 06	Perth Glory FC vs Sydney FC	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	5.00 pm
ROUND 21			
Fri 3 Feb 06	Sydney FC vs Adelaide United FC	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00 pm
Sat 4 Feb 06	Melbourne Victory FC vs New Zealand Knights FC	Olympic Park, Melbourne	6.00 pm
Sat 4 Feb 06	Queensland Roar FC vs Central Coast Mariners FC	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00 pm
Sun 5 Feb 06	Newcastle Jets FC vs Perth Glory FC	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00 pm
FINALS			
WEEK 1	**SEMI-FINAL 1ST LEG**		
Fri 10 Feb 06	1 v 2		
Sun 12 Feb 06	3 v 4		
WEEK 2	**SEMI-FINAL 2ND LEG**		
Fri 17 Feb 06	1 v 2		
Sun 19 Feb 06	3 v 4		
WEEK 3	**PRELIMINARY FINAL**		
Sat 25 Feb 06	Loser (1 v 2) v Winner (3 v 4)		
WEEK 4	**GRAND FINAL**		
Sat 4 Mar 06	Winner (1 v 2) v Winner (Preliminary)		

All times local and subject to change

CLUBNEWS

A club-by-club guide to what's happening off the field in the Hyundai A-League.

Queensland Roar

Roar players have had a busy promotional week, starting with the Queensland launch of the Smith Family Christmas Appeal at Parliament House with all football codes represented. Roar captain, Chad Gibson was the ambassador for football, and Premier Peter Beattie was also in attendance.

Luxury Paints, sponsor of Queensland Roar held a charity event at their Slacks Creek store with Radio 4BC. Roar players Hyuk-Su Seo, Michael Baird and Todd Gava improved their barbecuing skills and interacted with the 4BC hosts live on air.

Reece Tollenaere took part in a hole-in-one competition at Victoria Park Driving Range with proceeds going to the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation.

McDonald's McHappy Day is upon us, and Roar players will be at McDonald's restaurants in Myer Brisbane City, Rocklea and Bracken Ridge this weekend, between 11am and 12.30pm.

Sydney's new Japanese star Kazuyoshi "Kazu" Miura arrives in Sydney.

Melbourne Victory

Melbourne Victory and Nova100 are teaming up to provide you with a great kick-on after tonight's match. How does a free half-pint, a wine or a champagne sound? If you are 18 years or older head to Bridie O'Reilly's or Elephant and Wheelbarrow after the game tonight receive one free drink in exchange for your Melbourne Victory ticket.

The Nova100 Ambos will also be in attendance handing out loads of prizes and Melbourne Victory giveaways. This offer is valid at Bridie O'Reilly's (462 Chapel St, South Yarra) and Elephant and Wheelbarrow (94 Bourke St, City and 169 Fitzroy St, St. Kilda) for the first 200 ticket-holding patrons.

Kick on with Nova100 and Melbourne Victory.

Adelaide United

Supporters got to catch up with John Kosmina and the players on November 8 at the Gawler Place canopy in Rundle Mall for the launch of the Smith Family Christmas Appeal. Children from Noarlunga Downs Primary school were also there to sing Christmas carols and help support a very worthy cause.

Captain Ross Aloisi and team vice-captain Michael Valkanis visited the Northfield Primary School to present 20 new footballs to their enthusiastic football team who have struggled to make ends meet and haven't won a game in three years, so the guys took them for a training session.

Teacher Lee Scaife said, "What a buzz - the kids are still bragging about spending time with the Adelaide United players and being on TV with them." Let's hope that the team can get a win under its belt soon.

Adelaide mascot Big Red with players with Tony Hatzis, Chad Bugeja, Michael Matricciani and Robert Cornthwaite.

Central Coast Mariners

Central Coast Mariners welcomed two very special guests to their November 5 home match against

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NEXT MARINERS HOME GAME

CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

MARINERS V QUEENSLAND
FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER
8.00pm KICK OFF
CENTRAL COAST STADIUM

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Roar captain Michael Baird and former Brisbane Broncos captain Gorden Tallis on the giant Qantas Socceroos jersey making its way around the country.

southern rivals Sydney FC: Shannon Warren, daughter of iconic Australian football great Johnny Warren, and former Socceroo Joe Marston.

Martson, 79, of Umina Beach, will again have his name attached to the award for player of the match in the Australian national league grand final, having previously enjoyed the same honour in the old national league. The late Johnny Warren, whose daughter resides at the southern Central Coast town of Bensville, will be honoured each Hyundai A-League season with the Warren Medal – an award that recognises the players' player.

Both Warren and Marston were a part of the record attendance at Central Coast Stadium against Sydney, where fans first learned of the new Mariners Hyundai Getz giveaway.

Fans who texted CCMARINERS to 199BBSMS, a new information service that also collected entries for the Hyundai Getz giveaway, were in the running to win.

Newcastle Jets

Midfielder Richard Johnson was pleasantly surprised when he received a warm welcome from hundreds of kids attending the Hunter Valley School Grammar sports presentation. Johnson was a member of the panel of guests to assist with the presentation. Strikers Labinot Haliti and Ante Milicic were greeted by thousands of kids at the West Wallsend Workers Club to present their annual awards. Haliti and Milicic were inundated with kids requesting autographs.

The inaugural Jets Open Family Fun Day will be held on Sunday, November 27 at Adamstown Oval, where football fans, sports fans and families will have the opportunity to mingle with the Jets players and participate in fun games. Kids will have the opportunity to have a kick with the players, get autographs and be photographed with their favourite players.

Newcastle's Paul Kohler during a training session.

Perth Glory

Perth Glory has announced that striker Brian Deane has decided to terminate his contract with the club by mutual consent.

Deane was the club's last signing ahead of the inaugural Hyundai A-League season, having made more than 700 first class appearances in European football, mainly in England's top two divisions.

He has since played seven matches for Steve McMahon's side, the last of which saw him score the first goal in an impressive 2-1 win over Melbourne Victory at Members Equity Stadium on October 23.

Deane also sustained a hamstring injury in that match and, having not been able to play since that game, the 37-year-old has decided to leave Perth Glory to help the club build a squad for the future.

The big Englishman said: "The hamstring injury has already kept me out for three weeks and there is a mid-season break three weeks from now. After that there will only be around six weeks of the season left.

"By leaving the club now it gives Perth Glory a chance to regroup during what is an important phase of development for the club."

Sydney FC

FIFA comes to town this week, with Aussie Stadium hosting the official welcome of Sydney FC to the FIFA Club World Championship. FIFA staff will come to Sydney for a special media conference and will also have the FIFA Club World Championship trophy on display. The tournament takes place from December 11 to 18.

The event adds to the current international flavour in Sydney with new signing Kazuyoshi Miura increasing the profile of the club in Japan and the large Japanese community in Sydney.

Sydney FC is also proud to announce the Australian women's football team (the Matildas) will play an the Chinese national team as a curtain-raiser to the Round 15 clash with Melbourne Victory.

Australia and China have played out some great matches in recent times, and that is set to continue at Aussie Stadium on December 3.

New Zealand Knights

The Knights farewelled Englishman Ronnie Bull last week as he headed back to the UK for personal reasons. The departure was more than amicable and there was a feeling of sadness on both sides.

The likeable full-back and Knights management accepted the decision in the best interests of Bull's family.

Manager John Adshead will not rush into making a replacement, keeping the long term in mind.

The Knights Supporters Club reaches far and wide, with some interested fans turning up at training in Perth to wish John and the boys all the best. They said they were pleased with what they saw – a tight-knit and hard-working team with plenty of smiles, far from the impression generated by the media of late on the back of the poor results.

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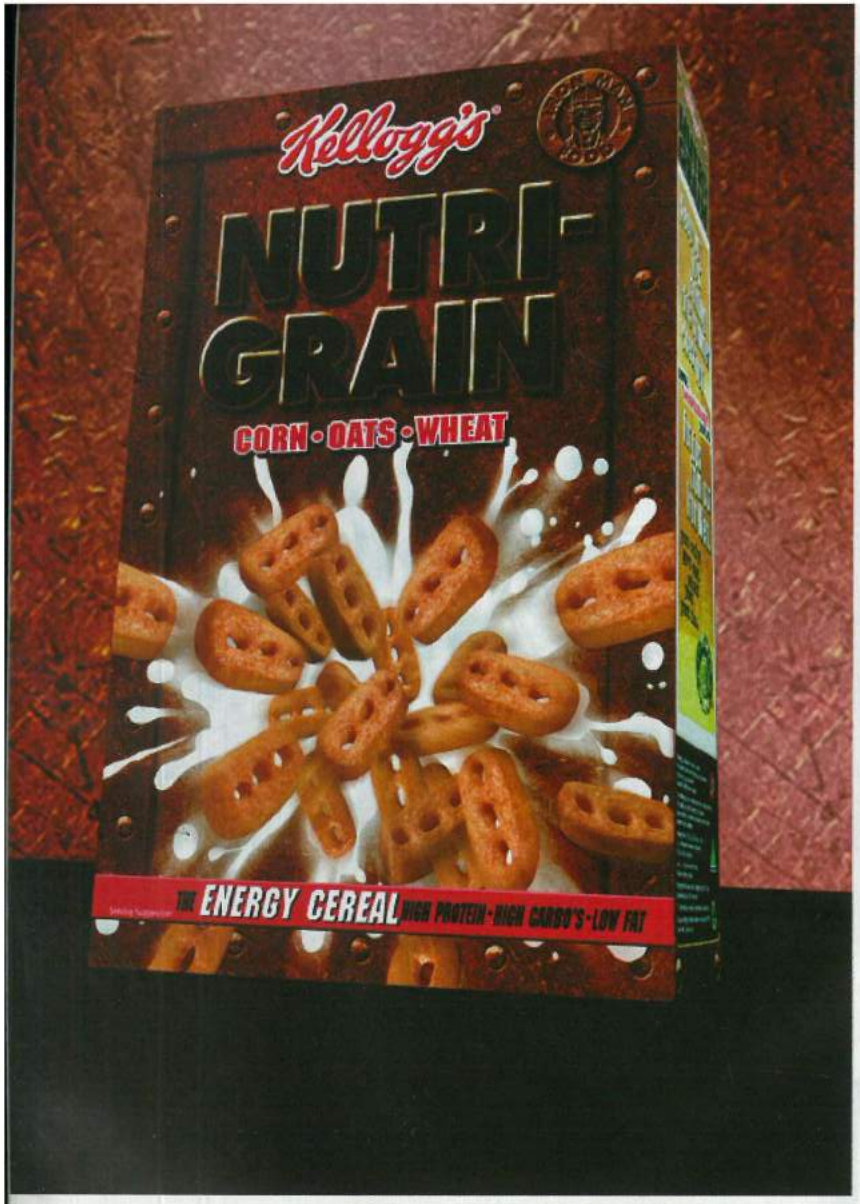

NEW ZEALAND KNIGHTS FOOTBALL CLUB

NZKNIGHTS.COM

Kelloggs is proud to be the Official Breakfast Supplier to the New Zealand Knights Football Club. This partnership includes naming rights of the Nutri-Grain Allstar Cheerleaders who will perform pre-match and at half time at North Harbour Stadium. Children attending the Knights matches will also be able to take part in the Coco Pops Cheerleader Dance Classes. Kellogg's has a philosophy of encouraging men, women, boys and girls to be active as well as eating a balanced diet. By supporting the New Zealand Knights, Kellogg's aims to help inspire young football players to follow their dreams and achieve all of their goals - as many of the New Zealand Knights are currently doing.

Brazil Campeonato Brasileiro

Saturday, November 12
Botafogo 2 Parana 0
Figueirense 1 Fortaleza 0
Palmeiras 2 Sao Paulo 1
Paysandu 0 Atletico Mineiro 2

Corinthians' Carlos Alberto (centre) celebrates scoring against Coritiba.

Standings	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Corinthians	37	22	8	7	80	53	74
Internacional	37	20	8	9	64	46	68
Fluminense	37	19	11	7	75	56	68
Goias	37	19	7	11	57	45	64
Palmeiras	38	17	10	11	68	57	61
Parana	38	16	9	13	56	47	57
Cruzeiro	37	16	9	12	69	63	57
Santos	37	15	10	12	65	62	55
Atletico Paranaense	37	16	6	15	66	55	54
Botafogo	38	15	8	15	52	51	53
Sao Paulo	38	14	10	14	70	60	52
Fortaleza	38	14	7	17	52	58	49
Ponte Preta	37	14	5	18	54	66	47
Juventude	37	12	10	15	56	63	46
Vasco da Gama	37	12	10	15	64	78	46
Sao Caetano	37	12	8	17	46	53	44
Flamengo	37	11	11	15	46	57	44
Figueirense	38	11	11	16	53	66	44
Coritiba	37	11	9	17	47	56	42
Paysandu	38	11	5	22	58	81	38
Brasiliense	37	9	11	17	45	60	38
Atletico Mineiro	38	10	7	21	48	58	37

Argentina Primera División

Saturday, November 12
Argentinos Juniors 1 Quilmes 2
Gimnasia y Esgrima Jujuy 0
Estudiantes 1
Gimnasia-La Plata 3
Racing Club 1

Friday, November 11
Rosario Central 0 Banfield 0

Boca Juniors' Rodrigo Palacio (right) fights for the ball with Alcides Piccoli of Colon.

Standings	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boca Juniors	13	8	4	1	26	10	28
Gimnasia-La Plata	14	9	1	4	22	16	28
Velez Sarsfield	13	8	2	3	18	9	26
Estudiantes	14	8	1	5	18	12	25
Independiente	13	6	5	2	25	16	23
Banfield	14	4	9	1	17	12	21
Argentinos Juniors	14	6	3	5	13	13	21
River Plate	13	6	2	5	19	14	20
San Lorenzo de Almagro	13	5	4	4	20	19	19
Olimpo	13	4	7	2	14	13	19
Quilmes	14	4	5	5	15	17	17
Rosario Central	14	4	4	6	14	23	16
Racing Club	14	4	2	8	17	21	14
Arsenal	13	3	5	5	14	18	14
Lanus	13	3	5	5	12	21	14
Colon	13	3	4	6	17	22	13
Instituto	13	2	6	5	7	13	12
Newell's Old Boys	13	3	3	7	14	21	12
Gimnasia y E'ma Jujuy	14	2	5	7	15	23	11
Tiro Federal	13	3	1	9	14	18	10

2005 2006

NEWCASTLE UNITED JETS

www.newcastlejets.com.au

Back Row From Left to Right: Jean Paul de Marigny (Head Coach), Stuart Musialik, Mark Bridge, Jade North, Mateo Corbo, Paul Kohler, Franco Parisi, Tarek Elrich, Lee Clark (Head Performance Coordinator).
Middle Row: Bobby Evans (Gear Steward), Steve Eagleton, Jobe Wheelhouse, Craig Deans, Ben Kennedy, Liam Reddy, Andy Petterson, Brett Studman, Andrew Durante, Labinot Haliti, James Green (Sports Trainer).
Front Row: Allan Picken, Guy Bates, Matt Thompson, Ante Milicic, Richard Money (Football Manager), Ned Zelic (Captain), Richard Johnson, Nick Carle, James Monie.

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE
HYUNDAI QANTAS Telstra Powerade FOX SPORTS NBN HERALD Kloster Hyundai KO-FM DOMAYNE JAMES ESTATE nxfm REBEL

Chile Torneo de Clausura

Saturday, November 12
Melipilla 1 Universidad de Concepcion 2
Palestino 1 Temuco 0
Santiago Wanderers 0 La Serena 0

Standings	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group A							
Universidad Catolica	17	13	4	0	28	2	43
Huachipato	18	10	4	4	30	18	34
Deportes Concepcion	18	8	6	4	25	23	30
San Felipe	18	6	5	7	23	30	23
Puerto Montt	17	4	3	10	16	30	15
Group B							
Universidad de Chile	17	10	5	2	30	22	35
La Serena	18	6	6	6	24	21	24
Everton	18	4	8	6	22	22	20
Santiago Wanderers	18	5	5	8	14	22	20
Temuco	18	6	1	11	16	36	19
Group C							
Cobresal	18	7	4	7	28	24	25
Cobreloa	18	5	5	8	21	20	20
Palestino	18	4	8	6	23	26	20
Rangers	18	4	6	8	24	30	18
Audax Italiano	18	4	6	8	20	27	18
Group D							
Colo Colo	18	12	5	1	44	15	41
Univ. de Concepcion	18	7	3	8	25	27	24
Union Espanola	18	5	6	7	25	30	21
Melipilla	18	6	2	10	15	20	20
Coquimbo	17	3	6	8	18	26	15

International friendlies

England's Michael Owen (left) celebrates a 3-2 win with Wayne Rooney against Argentina.

Saturday, November 12
England 3 Argentina 2
France 0 Germany 0
Netherlands 1 Italy 3
Portugal 2 Croatia 0
Romania 1 Ivory Coast 2
Scotland 1 United States 1
South Korea 2 Sweden 2
United Arab Emirates 0 Brazil 8
Sunday, November 13
China 0 Serbia & Montenegro 2
Iran 2 Togo 0
Paraguay 1 Macedonia 0
Poland 3 Ecuador 0

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE

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SCOTT HIGGINS

CLUB: Queensland Roar FC **POSITION:** Goalkeeper

Queensland's wise-cracking beanpole schools *Total Football*'s Marlo Dangerfield in creating nicknames for teammates and telling football jokes.

I've heard you come up with all the nicknames at Roar. Which ones are you most proud of?
We now call Michael Baird "Joe Dirt", because of his super-long mullet haircut like the guy in the film. We call Roycey (Royce Brownlie) "Computer", because he's always missing training with a virus. Our Korean player Hyuk-Su Seo, I call "Cracker" or "Biscuit" because his last name sounds like "Sao". I'm not sure he gets it, though.

What do they call you?
I was always "Giggles", but now they call me "CNN" because I have all the gossip and news. But that's kind of backfired because now no one tells me any secrets, because they know I'll spread them.

You are a clear two metres tall. What's the best thing about being up there?
Well, if we all go out to a nightclub, the boys just say, "let's meet at Giggles", because they can spot me anywhere.

What's the worst thing about being tall?
I've put my hands in a couple of ceiling fans in my time. The other thing is that it's really hard to hide if you are as big as me and you have strawberry blond hair. The guys say its ginger, but I swear it's strawberry blond.

Now the tough questions: Beer or wine?
Beer for sure.

Pélé or Maradona?
Pélé, because he's been a true professional all his life.

Kylie or Britney?
Britney – I like the music videos.

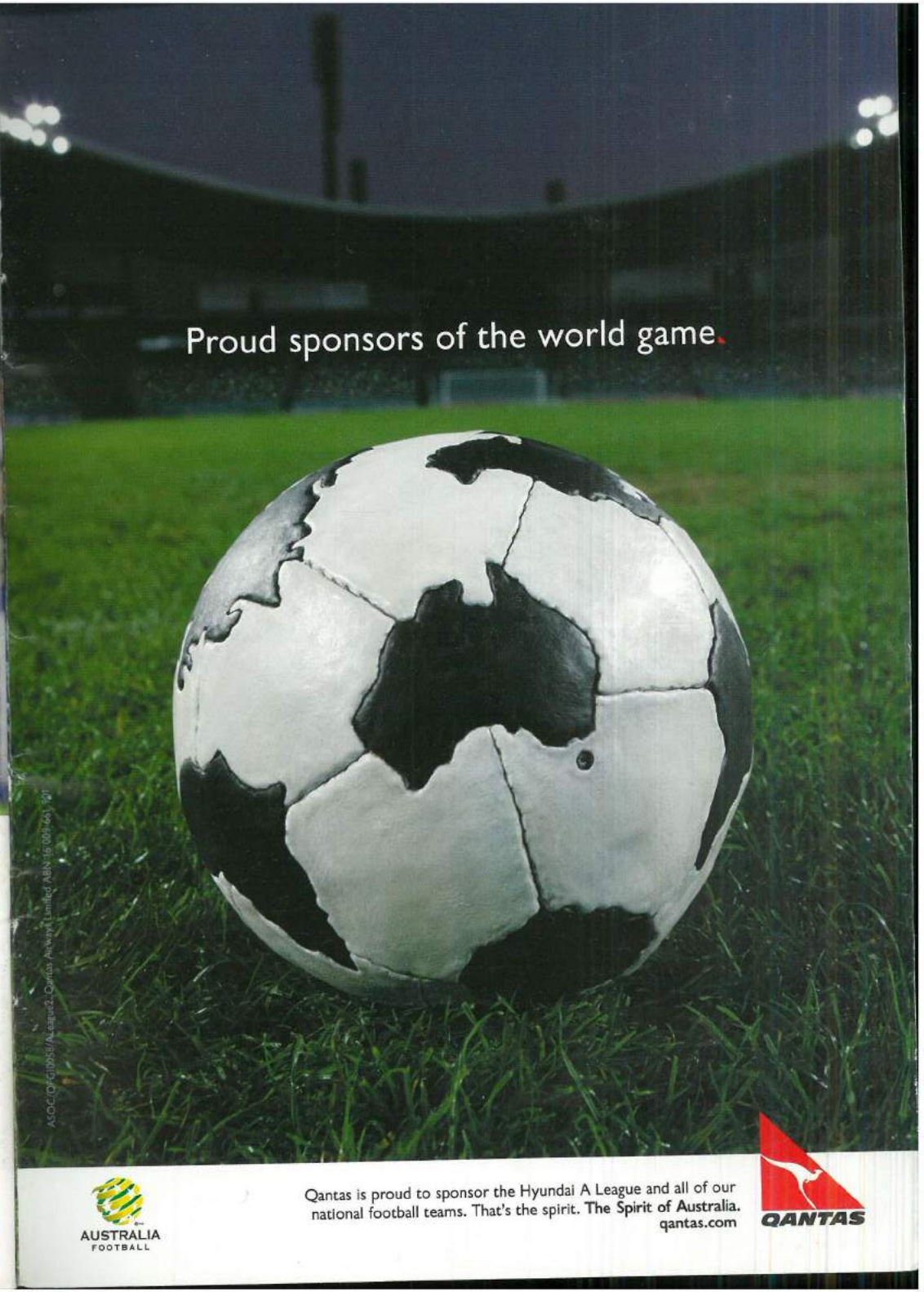
Burial or cremation?
Cremation. I hate the idea of being buried alive. I know it can't happen but it still spooks me.

If you had to have plastic surgery, what would you get done?
I'd get some muscles on my calves. There is nothing down there. My knees are the fattest part of my legs.

Have you got a joke for us?
Did you hear that the singer Sophie Ellis-Bextor was found dead at a French footballers house?

No?
It was murder on Zidane's floor.

Ha ha. I like it.
Cheers.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